WORLD SOCCER

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The INTERNATIONAL Magazine

MARCO TARDELLI
Juventus and Italy

World SOCCER

JUVENTUS CAN MAKE ALL THAT TALENT PAY OFF

JUVENTUS will never have a more classic setting in which to prove that the Agnelli millions have at last put together a team of all the talents.

Athens, with all those monuments to the artistic and philosophic glory of ancient Greece, provides a venue to match the occasion.

European football's biggest night of the year is being staged in the new Olympic Stadium: a new venue for a new occasion, since it's seven years since we last witnessed a European Champions' final without an English participant.

More than that in fact — without an English winner. Liverpool, Nottingham Forest, Liverpool again and Aston Villa last year have commanded the Champions' final with a mixture of spirit, luck and admirable resilience which was rarely pretty but eminently effective.

Is this is the modern order of football, then maybe that points to a success for Hamburg. But football's patterns never run quite true. It is, nevertheless, hard to imagine that this final will be much more than a cat-and-mouse affair, certainly in the first half.

It will resemble — and not only because of the self-same nationalities — the first half of last year's World Cup Final in Madrid. Italy against West Germany, repeated in the form of their leading club sides.

Paolo Rossi against Manni Kaltz at one end; Horst Hrubesch against Claudio Gentile at the other. The same faces. But with two key differences in the identities of Michel Platini and Zbigniew Boniek.

These are the men whose £2 million arrival in Turin last summer after the World Cup was intended to be the decisive last step in lifting Juventus to the elusive European club crown they have sought for so long.

It's hard to imagine, looking back, quite why the Boniperti-Charles-Sivori team of the late 1950s and early 1960s never conquered Europe. But all too often someone's nerve cracked or concentration wavered in the early rounds.

This time there need be no such mistake, particularly since Hamburg will be without the lively Jimmy Hartwig in midfield. He collected a second yellow card during the semi-final return against Real Sociedad and is thus suspended from this most important of all next games.

Hamburg have come through this season so steadily at the top of the Bundesliga that they have made few changes, and few of their reserves have had much chance to adjust to the first-team. What switches there have been have mainly involved the forwards — with Jürgen Milewski and Thomas Von Heesen hovering on the fringe.

This lack of reserve cover could also count against Hamburg late in the game when a fresh pair of legs can work wonders on a big occasion.

But while European fans will be hoping for a moment of drama from Rossi, some more poetry in motion from Platini and a sight of the devastating finishing of Boniek, they will also be saying goodbye.

Juve's Roberto Bettega is on his way to Toronto after the game; ironic that his last game should also be his most important. Pleasing, too, that the man who missed the World Cup last year because of injury isn't yet quite finished at

● Continued on page 4

Yesterday's man . . . Tony Barton celebrates Aston Villa's Champions' Cup victory. But that was last year!

European Cup Final preview

by Keir Radnedge

Cover picture

ACTION from the World Cup, with Diego Maradona holding off a challenge from Paolo Roberto Falcao, is the subject of our Cover Picture. The 1982 finals were, of course, held in Spain, but the venue of the 1986 series has yet to be announced. All the signs point, however, to Mexico – with FIFA's World Cup organising committee chairman Hermann Neuberger even playing-down suggestions that his inquiry commission should pay last-minute courtesy calls on the United States and Canada. Why are Mexico the favourites? Answers in a special report on pages 10-11. Also in this issue: European Cups' finals previews, pp 3-6; Club Focus on Waterschei, pp 8-9; Team America unveiled, pp 12-23; Brazil's new manager in South America Review, pp. 14-17; National team reports on Bulgaria and Turkey, pp 18-19; Brian Glanville, pp 20-21; Libertadores' Cup history, Part I, pp 22-23; Soviet scandals, pp. 24-25; World Soccer Diary, pp 26-27; Memory Lane, p 28; Brazil Notebook, p 29; Round-the-world reports, pp. 30-39; International details, pp 40-43.

GERRY HITCHENS, former England, Aston Villa, Internazionale, Torino, Atalanta and Cagliari centre-forward, has died aged 49 after collapsing during a veterans' match in Wales. Hitchens was signed by Inter after scoring twice in England's victory over Italy in Rome in 1961, and didn't return to Britain until 1968.

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Europe comes to England

ENGLAND may have suffered a European upset at club level, with not one team even reaching the semi-finals — but that wasn't the end of English European ambitions for the season.

From May 13 to 22 the finals of the European Youth Championship will be staged in England, who qualify direct as hosts. The final is being staged at White Hart Lane.

The first round groups are:

Group 1: Czechoslovakia, West Germany, Bulgaria, Sweden. **Group 2:** Yugoslavia, Romania, Italy, Turkey. **Group 3:** England, Spain, Scotland (holders), Soviet Union. **Group 4:** Finland, France, Republic of Ireland, Belgium.

* * *

MANCHESTER UNITED are favourites to win the FA Cup after defeating Arsenal 2-1 in their Villa Park semi-final. Their opponents will be Brighton, struggling to avoid relegation from the First Division, yet reaching the Final for the first time in their history with a 2-1 victory over Jack Charlton's Sheffield Wednesday.

European Cup Final preview

● Continued from page 3

the top of the tree. Bettega has proved a wily old inspiration since returning to the first team in mid-season — though more in midfield now than in the striking role where he made his name.

And while Bettega prepares to bow out, so Hamburg will also be about to part company with their two-man strike force: Horst Hrubesch and Lars Bastrup.

Hrubesch is now winding-down his career, dreaming no doubt of a return to the river banks to enjoy his angling. He has said repeatedly that he will leave HSV when his contract expires this summer and negotiations with Standard Liege have been dragging on for some time.

As for Bastrup, the Dane has been unhappy at Hamburg for some time and finally announced he couldn't wait to get away days before hitting a hat-trick away to Dynamo Kiev in the European quarter-finals.

Level

Yet, while Juventus will be favourites, the club's European record at top level is pretty equal.

One common denominator is that both have appeared on the losing side once in Champions' Cup final. Each time by 1-0. Juventus went down to a Johnny Rep goal when they fell to Ajax in Belgrade in 1973 — exactly a decade ago. And Hamburg slipped to a single John Robertson goal against Nottingham Forest in Madrid in 1980.

Outside the premier tournament Hamburg have won once and finished runners-up in the Cup-winners' Cup. They have also been UEFA Cup runners-up. Against that Juventus have twice been runners-up in the old Fairs' Cup and landed the UEFA cup in 1977 — thanks to an away-goals rule win over Bilbao.

Thomas von Heesen (right) shoots Hamburg's winner against Real Sociedad in West Germany.

JUVENTUS v HAMBURG

Both teams will lean towards defence and it's interesting to note that both rival coaches made their names as defenders.

Hamburg's boss, the Austrian Ernst Happel, was a centre-half with Rapid Vienna and later Racing Club de Paris. Happel scored occasional goals from free-kicks and penalties, but he was no romantic centre-half of the old Austrian school, but that country's first effective stopper.

As for Juventus coach Giovanni Trapattoni, he was a fine all-round wing-half who earned a massive reputation as the only man who could keep control of Pele by fair means, rather than foul.

Both appear well-ensconced in their jobs and defeat in Athens won't mean the order of the boot. But Trapattoni has had the fortune of being able to prepare a little more easily than Happel. While Hamburg's main preoccupation has been with fighting off the various challengers at the top of the Bundesliga, so Juventus have always been chasing a lost cause behind Roma in Italy.

The trend in world football over the past 20 years has been away from the individual and towards the team and very probably that trend will one day be seen as one of the keys behind the English domination of the Champions' Cup for the past six years.

On the basis that a redressing of the balance towards the individual is needed, then Juventus — despite the defensive mentality of Italian football generally — would be more welcome winners. After all, no one has spent more than they have over the years in trying to maintain the star system.

That's not to say that Hamburg can't play skilled, entertaining football. They're a slick outfit who still can't understand how IFK Gothenburg beat them in last year's UEFA Cup Final.

Manni Kaltz and Co are big men with big reputations and they will be all out to protect them. Yet while it's seven years since Bayern Munich took the European Cup home to West Germany, it's 14 years since Italy — in the form of Milan — were last afforded that privilege.

Juventus appear to have the edge in individual skill: but Hamburg's more direct approach will certainly keep Dino Zoff on his 41-year-old toes!

JUVENTUS				HAMBURG		
Name	Age	Caps	Pos	Name	Age	Caps
DINO ZOFF	41	111	G	ULI STEIN	28	
CLAUDIO GENTILE	29	67	RB	MANFRED KALTZ	30	69
SERGIO BRIO	26		CB	DITMAR JAKOBS	29	1
GAETANO SCIREA	29	60	SW	HOLGER HIERONYMUS	24	3
ANTONIO CABRINI	25	43	LB	BERND WEHMEYER	30	
MASSIMO BONI	23		MF	WOLFGANG ROLFF	23	1
MARCO TARDELLI	28	67	MF	JURGEN MILEWSKI	25	2
ROBERTO BETTEGA	32	42	MF	JURGEN GROH	26	1
MICHAEL PLATINI	27	44 (Fr)	MF	FELIX MAGATH	29	24
PAOLO ROSSI	26	32	CF	LARS BASTRUP	27	28 (Den)
ZBIGNIEW BONIEK	27	59 (Pol)	AT	HORST KRUBESCH	32	21
SUBSTITUTES						
			G	Uwe Hain	27	
Luciano Bodini	29		FB	Michael Schmidt	20	
Massimo Storgato	21		MF	Allan Hansen	27	20 (Den)
Giuseppe Furino	36	3	AT	Thomas Von Heesen	21	
Domenico Marocchino	26	1	AT			
Giuseppe Galderisi	20					

Coach: GIOVANNI TRAPATTONI — Coach: ERNST HAPPEL

HOW THEY GOT THERE

Juventus:
4-1 a v Hvidovre — Platini, Rossi, Brio, Cabrini
3-3 h v Hvidovre — Boniek, Platini, Rossi
7-4 on agg
1-1 a v Standard Liege — Tardelli
2-0 h v Standard Liege — Rossi 2
3-1 on agg
2-1 a v Aston Villa (holders) — Rossi, Boniek
3-1 h v Aston Villa — Platini 2, Tardelli
5-2 on agg (quarter-finals)
2-0 h v Widzew Lodz — Tardelli, Bettega
2-2 a v Widzew Lodz — Rossi, Platini pen
4-2 on agg (semi-finals)
Scorers: Rossi 6, Platini 5, Tardelli 3, Boniek 2, Bettega 1, Brio 1, Cabrini 1.

Hamburg:
1-1 a v Dynamo E. Berlin — Milewski
2-0 h v Dynamo E. Berlin — Hartwig, Krubesch
3-1 on agg
1-0 h v Olympiakos Piraeus — Von Heesen
4-0 a v Olympiakos — Magath, Hrubesch, Rolff, Bastrup
5-0 on agg
3-0 a v Dynamo Kiev — Bastrup 3
1-2 h v Kiev — Hartwig
4-2 on agg (quarter-finals)
1-1 a v Real Sociedad — Rolff
2-1 h v Real Sociedad — Jakobs, Von Heesen
3-2 on agg (semi-finals)
Scorers: Bastrup 4, Hartwig 2, Hrubesch 2, Rolff 2, Von Heesen 2, Magath 1, Milewski 1, Jakobs 1.

PREVIOUS WINNERS

1956-60 Real Madrid. 1961-62 Benfica. 1963 Milan. 1964-65 Internazionale. 1966 Real Madrid. 1967 Celtic. 1968 Manchester United. 1969 Milan. 1970 Feyenoord. 1971-73 Ajax Amsterdam. 1974-76 Bayern Munich. 1977-78 Liverpool. 1979-80 Nottingham Forest. 1981 Liverpool. 1982 Aston Villa. **Most wins:** Real Madrid 6; Ajax, Bayern, Liverpool 3 each; Benfica Internazionale, Milan, Nottingham Forest 2 each; Celtic, Manchester united, Feyenoord and Aston Villa 1 each.

European Cup Winners Cup Final preview

May 11, in Gothenburg

ABERDEEN v REAL MADRID

ABERDEEN may have the more verve, the more spirit and the greater physical force to back their skill. But against Real Madrid, appearing in their 11th European final, that might not be enough.

To get the history out of the way: this is Aberdeen's first-ever European final, while Madrid are the greatest name in the history books. Six times winners and three times runners-up (most recently in 1981) in the Champions' Cup and beaten finalists after a replay in the 1971 Cup-winners' Cup.

That defeat was at the hands of Chelsea. And while none of the players then survive in the Madrid team of today, they claim — in coach Alfredo Di Stefano — the presence of the man who inspired their Champions' Cup domination of the 1950s.

Then Di Stefano was a peripatetic, all-action centre forward. Perhaps the greatest footballer of all time. Now he wants to take Madrid to a repeat of his own: for Di Stefano was Valencia coach when they won the Cup-winners' Cup in 1980.

They beat Arsenal on penalties then, part of Spanish trilogy sandwiched between Barcelona's Cup-winners' Cup successes of 1979 and 1982. And those Barcelona triumphs provide extra motivation for Madrid. The bitter rivals from Catalonia thus have one over on Real — a title they have never claimed: an injustice to set to rights.

That will be the task confronting a Madrid team whose imported strength comes now from Dutchman Johnny Metgod in the heart of defence, and West German Uli Stielike in midfield. Up front Juanito is ageing and less consistent, but centre forward Carlos Santillana seems to have struck a golden vein in Europe this season and his ability in the air could surprise the Scots.

As for Aberdeen, manager Alex Ferguson, having spied out Madrid in the semi-final second leg against FK Austria, will leave nothing to chance. But while acknowledging Madrid's ability, he is confident that his own lively team can do the job.

Gordon Strachan is a fine player who has been the subject of envious glances from Bayern Munich. And the opportunism of the likes of Eric Black and Mark McGhee was clear for everyone to see in the semi-final demolition of Waterschei.

Both teams will base their tactics on 4-4-2, with Madrid probably flanking the temperament of Stielike and the potential of Ricardo Gallego in midfield with the workrate of Angel and the physical nagging of San Jose.

That being so, and given that the Swedish fans will probably opt for honorary Scottish rather Spanish citizenship on the night, Madrid will come under heavier pressure.

They will hope that Aberdeen's extravagant attacking provides gaps for Santillana and Juanito to exploit on the break. They will hope also that a frantic finale to the domestic Scottish season will mean Aberdeen running-out of stamina.

That may be a forlorn hope, bearing in mind that Aberdeen have already played two games more to reach Gothenburg, having been drawn against Sion of Switzerland in the preliminary round last summer when no one would have tipped them for glory.

Aberdeen have scored 24 goals on their way, with the marksmen spread around the team. Madrid, by comparison, have found only Santillana a consistent thorn in opposition defences.

Madrid have never been beaten by Scottish opposition in Europe. Aberdeen couldn't choose a better moment to reverse that trend; but Madrid may carry just a little too much mean experience.

Probable teams

Aberdeen: Jim Leighton — Stuart Kennedy, Alex McLeish, Willie Miller, Doug Rougvie — Gordon Strachan, Neil Simpson, Neale Cooper, Eric Black — Mark McGhee, Peter Weir.

Real Madrid: Agustin — Juan Jose, Francisco Bonet, Johnny Metgod, Jose Camacho — Angel, Ricardo Gallego, Uli Stielike, Isidoro San Jose — Juanito, Santillana.

How they got there

Aberdeen bt Sion 7-0, 4-1 (prelim rnd); bt Dinamo Tirana 1-0, 0-0; bt Lech Poznan 2-0, 1-0; bt Bayern Munich 0-0, 3-2 (qtr-fnl); bt Waterschei 5-1, 0-1 (semi). **Scorers:** McGhee 6, Hewitt 4, Black 3, Simpson 3, Weir 2, Bell 1, Kennedy 1, McLeish 1, Miller 1, Strachan 1.

Real Madrid bt Baia Mare 0-0, 5-2; bt Ujpest Dozsa 3-1, 1-0; bt Internazionale 1-1, 2-1 (qtr-fnl); bt F K Austria 2-2, 3-1 (semi). **Scorers:** Santillana 8, Juanito 3, Gallego 1, Garcia Hernandez 1, Isidoro 1, Metgod 1, Salguero 1, San Jose 1.

Previous winners: 1961 Fiorentina. 1962 Atletico Madrid. 1963 Tottenham. 1964 Sporting Lisbon. 1965 West Ham. 1966 Borussia Dortmund. 1967 Bayern Munich. 1968 Milan. 1969 Slovan Bratislava. 1970 Man City. 1971 Chelsea. 1972 Glasgow Rangers. 1973 Milan. 1974 Magdeburg. 1975 Dynamo Kiev. 1976 Anderlecht. 1977 Hamburg. 1978 Anderlecht. 1979 Barcelona. 1980 Valencia. 1981 Dynamo Tbilisi. 1982 Barcelona. **Most wins:** Anderlecht, Barcelona and Milan 2 each.

UEFA Cup Final preview

May 4 in Brussels; May 18 in Lisbon

ANDERLECHT v BENFICA

IT'S RARE, not thus the more refreshing, to find two of the Continental games old favourites facing one another through the tension of a European final.

Twenty years ago Benfica would have been the obvious tip. Anderlecht the raw outsiders. But in those 20 yeards plenty has changed. Benfica now have no Eusebio to thunder the goals and Belgium's steady improvement is reflected in Anderlecht's standing as narrow favourites.

Should the Belgians win over the two legs they will become only the second club to have won both the Cup-winners' Cup and the UEFA Cup (Tottenham are the other). But can the Belgians succeed against a Benfica whose coach, Sven-Goran Eriksson, knows all about winning the UEFA Cup?

After all he was the magician who guided IFK Gothenburg to their improbable triumph against far higher odds a year ago.

Eriksson's policy of attack being the best form of defence is carrying Benfica easily towards their 25th domestic championship. That is not so surprising. What is remarkable is that such tactics have succeeded against the more subtle and experienced opposition to be found in European competition.

Benfica last appeared in a European final in 1968, when they went down 4-2 in extra time to Manchester United in the Champions' Cup decider at Wembley. Since when they've turned up regularly in Europe each season without getting very far — their standards and reputation dragged back by the depression in Portuguese football.

Those who remember Benfica's glory years may be surprised to know that plenty of today's fans think of the Portuguese as mere history. Yet nothing could have overturned that impression more spectacularly than Benfica's defeat of Roma in the quarter-finals this season.

They went to Rome's Olympic stadium as rank outsiders against the Italian league leaders, yet came away with a 2-1 victory which made the continent sit up and breathed new confidence and new life into ageing veterans such as skipper and defensive king pin Humberto Coelho, and top scorer Nene.

The man who did the damage was two-goal centre-forward Zoran Filipovic. But against Anderlecht he will find a fellow Yugoslav barring the way in Luka Peruzovic, a sweeper whose self-confidence has increased by leaps and bounds since his original coach and mentor, Tomislav Ivic, was sacked last October.

Ivic's replacement, Paul Van Himst, was an Anderlecht star of the 1960s and rates as his country's greatest-ever player. A glorious attacking inside-forward, he has instilled a more offensive frame of mind in an Anderlecht team who had become cautious to the point of sterile under Ivic.

The World Cup experience of midfielders Ludo Coeck and Frankie Vercauteren — survivors of Anderlecht's Cup-winners' Cup wins of the late 1970s — could just make the difference when it comes to holding the Belgian lost in the Lisbon second leg.

With Erwin Vandenbergh back in goal-grabbing form up front, Anderlecht appear to have the edge in all-round skill and strength. They may need it; Benfica, twice winners and three times runner-up in the Champions' Cup, have plenty going for them in terms of pride.

Probable teams

Anderlecht: Jacques Munaron — Wim Hofkens, Luka Peruzovic, Morten Olsen, Michel De Groote — Per Frimann, Juan Lozano, Ludo Coeck, Frankie Vercauteren — Erwin Vandenbergh, Kenneth Brylle.

Benfica: Manuel Bento — Minervino Pietra, Antonio Bastos Lopes I, Humberto Coelho, Antonio Veloso — Carlos Manuel, Joao Alves, Han Shau, Fernando Chalana — Zoran Filipovic, Manuel Nene.

How they got there

Anderlecht bt Kuopion Palloseura 3-0, 3-1; bt Porto 4-0, 2-3; bt Sarajevo 6-1, 0-1; bt Valencia 2-1, 3-1 (qtrs); bt Bohemians Praha 1-0, 3-1 (semi). **Scorers:** Vandenbergh 7, Lozano 4, Brylle 4, Coeck 3, Vercauteren 3, Czernatynski 3, De Groote 1, Olsen 1, Ferhatovic (Sarajevo) own goal 1.

Benfica bt Belis 2-1, 2-1; bt Lokeren 2-0, 2-1; bt F. C. Zurich 1-1, 4-0; bt Roma 2-1, 1-1 (qtrs); bt Un. Craiova 0-0, 1-1 (semi). **Scorers:** Nene 6, Filipovic 6, Humberto Coelho 2, Carlos Manuel 1, Diamantino 1, Padinha 1.

Previous winners (Fairs' Cup/UEFA Cup): — 1958 Barcelona. 1960 Barcelona. 1961 Roma. 1962-63 Valencia. 1964 Zaragoza. 1965 Ferencvaros. 1966 Barcelona. 1967 Dinamo Zagreb. 1968 Leeds. 1969 Newcastle. 1970 Arsenal. 1971 Leeds. 1972 Tottenham. 1973 Liverpool. 1974 Feyenoord. 1975 Borussia Mg. 1976 Liverpool. 1977 Juventus. 1978 PSV Eindhoven. 1979 Borussia Mg. 1980 Eintracht Frankfurt. 1981 Ipswich. 1982 IFK Gothenburg. **Most wins:** Barcelona 3; Borussia Mg, Leeds, Liverpool, Valencia 2 each.

How they reached the finals

CHAMPIONS' CUP
Semi-finals, 1st legs (April 6)

Juventus 2 (Tardelli 7, Bettega 59)
Widzew Lodz 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 72,000 (Receipts Italian record £550,000). **Ref:** Ponnet (Bel).

Juventus: Zoff — Gentile, Cabrini, Bonini, Brio, Scirea, Bettega, Tardelli, Rossi (Marocchino 77), Platini, Boniek.

Widzew: Mlynarczyk — Swiatek, Wojcicki, Grzebosz, Kaminski — Wraga (Mysliniki 80), Ronike, Rozborski, Surlit — Tokinski, Smolarek.

Juventus avenged a UEFA Cup defeat in the Stadio Communale by the Poles three years ago (that was on penalties) with this win. But it wasn't quite as clear cut as coach Giovanni Trapattoni would have liked — particularly since the Italians had gone ahead after only seven minutes when a Marco Tardelli drive was diverted past Mlynarczyk by Grzebosz. A mistake by Mlynarczyk cost the Poles a second goal almost on the hour. The goalkeeper couldn't hold a shot from former team-mate Zbigniew Boniek and Bettega shot in the loose ball. The second goal provoked the Poles into some serious counter-attacking, but it was Juventus who came nearest another goal, through Boniek and Marocchino. Dino Zoff was never troubled in a game which saw bookings for Juve's Platini and Widzew's Surlit, Grebosz and Smolarek.

Real Sociedad 1 (Gajate 74)
Hamburg 1 (Rolff 58)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 27,000. **Ref:** Vautrot (F)

Real: Arconada — Celayeta, Larranaga, Gajate, Gorriz — Baquero, Zubillaga, Zamora (Orbegozo 68), Lopez Ufarte — Diego, Uralde.

Hamburg: Stein — Kaltz, Jakobs, Hieronymus, Wehmeyer — Rolff, Hartwig, Groh, Magath — Hrubesch, Bastrup (Milewski 46).

Cool and confident Hamburg moved closer — apparently — to their second final in three years thanks to this draw in a match they might have won. They outplayed the Spaniards, disrupted by suspension and injuries, and took the lead in the 58th minute when new West German international Wolfgang Rolff headed home on the run after a right-wing dash by Jimmy Hartwig. Real, already without injured spearhead Satrustegui, lost half-fit midfield general Zamora soon after, but then, ironically, pulled level. Forcing their first corner of the game, Real took advantage of loose marking for Gajate to head home Lopez Ufarte's curling kick.

CUP-WINNERS' CUP
Semi-finals, 1st legs (April 6)

Aberdeen 5 (Black 1, Simpson 4, McGhee 68, 84, Weir 70)
Waterschei 1 (Gudmundsson 75)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 24,000. **Ref:** Bergamo (It)

Aberdeen: Leighton — Kennedy, McLeish, Miller, Rougvie — Strachan, Simpson, Bell (Cooper 78), Black (Hewitt 78) — McGhee, Weir.

Waterschei: Pudelko — Martos, Baiousz, Cluysters, David — Van Kraay (Y. Peeters 70), Coenen (Cornine 70), P. Janssen, R. Janssen — Gudmundsson, Voordeckers.

Aberdeen lost no time assuring their place in the final, sweeping into a two-goal lead inside four minutes and finally nailing the Belgians with another brisk two-goal burst midway through the second half. The first goal, by Eric Black, the Scotland under-21 forward, fully justified manager Alex Ferguson's decision to recall Doug Bell, who laid on the chance. Simpson scored a brilliant solo second and Alex McLeish headed against a post before the Belgians launched a couple of token raids towards the end of the first half. Leighton had to push over the bar a curling free kick from Pierre Janssen, but that was the last time the Belgians troubled him — until Larus Gudmundsson's late consolation, created by Voordeckers.

F K Austria 2 (Polster 4, Magyar 20)
Real Madrid 2 (Santillana 7, San Jose 55)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 45,000. **Ref:** Jangui (Pol)

F K Austria: Koncilia — Sara, Obermayer, Zore, Degeorgi — Mustedanagic (Dihanich 71), Gasselich, Magyar (Radimec 77), Baumeister — Polster, Steinkogler.

Madrid: Garcia Remon (Agustin 46) — Juan Jose, Bonet, Metgod, Salguero — Angel, Gallego, Del Bosque, San Jose — Juanito (Pineda 84), Santillana.

The Austrians, starting strongly in both halves with the sort of determination which saw off holders Barcelona in the previous round, ran out of steam too soon. Before San Jose's second equaliser for Madrid both Zore and Steinkogler had golden opportunities to put the Viennese well ahead, but shot badly off target. Toni Polster, the rising star of Austrian football, quickly opened the scoring with a shot which slipped through Garcia's Remon's hands — the start of an unhappy night for the goalkeeper who later had to be substituted after twisting a knee. A mistake by Zore let in Santillana for a quick equaliser before a blunder, this time by Del Bosque, let in Magyar to put Austria back ahead. It wasn't until ten minutes into the second half that San Jose fired home on the run after collecting an incisive through pass from Juanito.

U E F A CUP
Semi-finals, 1st legs (April 6)

Benfica 0
Universitatea Craiova 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 62,500. **Ref:** Fredriksson (Swe)

Benfica: Bento — Pietra, Humberto, Coelho, Bastos Lopes, Alvaro — Carlos Manuel, Shéu (Nene 54), Alves, Chalana (Jose Luis 85) — Filipovic, Diamantino.

Craiova: Lung — Negrila, Tilinca, Cioputu, Ungureanu — Tickeanu, Donose (Dumitru 76), Irimescu, Crisan — Camataru, Geolgau (Beldeanu 55).

Benfica piled on the pressure from the start in the attempt to reach the UEFA Cup Final for the first time but the Romanians held them at bay with relentless man-to-man marking, despite the absence of suspended Stefanescu and midfield general Balaci. Benfica forced 14 corners but their anxiety ruined their concentration in the penalty box and led to lost tempers: Carlos Manuel being booked for a 71st-minute foul on Tickeanu. Negrila was booked too.

Bohemians Praha 0
Anderlecht 1 (Vandenbergh 30)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 16,000. **Ref:** Eschweiler (WG)

Bohemians: Z. Hruska — Jakubec, Prokes, Marek, Levy — Chaloupka, Zelensky (Bicovsky 46), Knokal — Pelouny, Cermak, Mizerec.

Anderlecht: Munaron — Hofkens, Peruzovic, Olsen, De Groote — Frimann, De Greef, Coeck, Vercauteren — Vandenbergh, Brylle (Czerniatynski 70).

Belgian World Cup striker Erwin Vandenbergh scored the vital goal which so disgusted the Czechs and left Anderlecht poised to press further their bid to become only the second team (Tottenham were the others) to win both the Cup-winners' Cup and UEFA Cup. This was only Bohemians' second home defeat in three years, inflicted by a Vandenbergh header after a typically inch-perfect cross from Luda Coeck. After that Anderlecht packed their defence and wasted time whenever they could to make their task easier back in Brussels.

CHAMPIONS' CUP
Semi-finals, second legs (April 20)

Hamburg 2 (Jakobs 75, Van Heesen 82)
Real Sociedad 1 (Diego 79)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 51,000. **Ref:** Galler (Swz)
Hamburg 3-2 on agg

Hamburg: Stein — Kaltz, Groh, Jakobs, Wehmeyer — Hartwig, Magath, Rolff — Von Heesen, Hrubesch, Bastrup.

Real: Arconada — Celayeta, Murillo, Gorriz, Olaizola — Diego, Zubillaga, Larranaga, Ortegozo — Uralde (Baquero), Lopez Ufarte.

Hamburg left it late before reaching the final, though they piled on the pressure to no result in the first half. It wasn't until the 75th minute, just when their spirits appeared to be wilting, that they went ahead — Jakobs heading in a Kaltz corner. Real surprisingly equalised four minutes later through Diego but with extra time looming Hamburg youngster Thomas Von Heesen popped up to save the day for the West Germans. A low shot from Felix Magath struck Jakobs in the midriff, and as the ball ran loose so Von Heesen shot past Arconada. One blow for Hamburg was a yellow card for Jimmy Hartwig — his second of the tournament — which means he must miss the final. The second half started ten minutes late after Swiss linesman Peter Aschwanden twisted an ankle and an appeal had to go out for a replacement.

Widzew Lodz 2 (Surlit 55 and 80)
Juventus 2 (Rossi 33, Platini 80 pen)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** Corver (Hol)
Juventus 4-2 on agg

Widzew: Mlynarczyk — Mysliniki, Wojcicki, Kaminski, Ronike, Surlit, Wraga (Matusiak), Rozborski, Filipczak (Marciniak), Smolarek, Tokinski.

Juventus: Zoff — Gentile, Brio (Storgato), Scirea, Cabrini — Bonini, Tardelli, Platini — Marocchino, Rossi (Prandelli), Boniek.

Juventus reached the final after an uneven game held up for ten minutes in the second half after a linesman was felled by a missile from the crowd. He returned with his head heavily bandaged, while police took a man out of the crowd. Michel Platini laid on Juve's opening goal for Paolo Rossi but Widzew equalised after the interval when Krzysztof Surlit converted a corner. Surlit struck again, from a free kick, to put Widzew ahead in the 80th minute. But after Boniek was pulled down by his former team-mate Mlynarczyk, Platini accepted Juventus' equaliser from the penalty spot.

CUP-WINNERS' CUP
Semi-finals, second legs

Waterschei 1 (Voordeckers 73)
Aberdeen 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 22,000. **Ref:** Prokop (EG)
Aberdeen 5-2 on agg

Waterschei: Pudelko — Martos, P. Janssen, Cluysters, David — Y. Peeters, Van Kraay, Pier, R. Janssen — Voordeckers, Gudmundsson (Mazzignani 37).

Aberdeen: Leighton — Kennedy, McLeish, Miller, Rougvie — Watson, Simpson (Angus), McMaster, Hewitt — McGhee (Falconer), Weir.

Aberdeen suffered their first defeat in the campaign in 10 games (they played in the preliminary round, too!) yet cruised comfortably into the final. Despite having to cover for a number of injuries, they dealt easily with the Belgians' vain attempts to achieve a miracle comeback. The late, lone goal by Eddy Voordeckers — catching Jim Leighton on one of a couple of risky sorties from his goal — made no difference to the overall outcome. Aberdeen could have got away with at least a draw but McGhee fluffed an open goal with Pudelko off balance after a Weir shot had been cleared off the line.

Real Madrid 3 (Santillana 10 and 63, Juanito 71)
F K Austria 1 (Juan Jose own goal 68)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 70,000. **Ref:** Dochev (Bul)
Madrid 5-3 on agg

Real Madrid: Agustin — Juan Jose, Metgod, Salguero, Camacho — Angel, Del Bosque, San Jose — Juanito, Santillana (Garcia Hernandez 86), Isidro (Pineda 60).

F K Austria: Koncilia — Sara, Obermayer, Zore, Degeorgi — Baumeister, Mustedanagic (Dihanich 60), Gasselich, Magyar — Polster (Drabits 55), Steinkogler.

Madrid reach the 11th final of their European history, but they made hard work of it under the watchful eye of Aberdeen boss Alex Ferguson. After Santillana put Madrid ahead, the Austrians came back, thanks to some delightful play in midfield by Gasselich and Magyar and with Polster a handful up front. They even equalised, courtesy of a Juan Jose own goal, midway through the second half. Madrid remained ahead on the away goals rule and though without injured Uli Stielike, pulled themselves together under the leadership of Johnny Metgod, to take winning command. First Juanito scored to crown a daunting 30-yard run, then Santillana took a superb Pineda pass around Koncilia to wrap it up.

Chester report worthy of attention . . .

says Leslie Vernon

THE Chester report is a highly important document, and if it is ignored, the all-powerful club chairmen only have themselves to blame for the decline of the game.

After all, the report was commissioned by the Football League, and the worthy members of Sir Norman Chester's committee did listen to all shades of opinion within the game (they even canvassed me for my views).

Some critics observe that the findings do not say anything about such fundamental issues as hooliganism, too much TV, players' wages, the transfer system, etc, but that wasn't their job, they couldn't possibly delve into every aspect of football.

Here are the eleven salient points which would improve the game.

1. Reduction of First Division from 22 clubs to 20 from the end of season 1983-84. Second Division to be increased to 24 clubs.

(Brave! This was a reform I have suggested time and again, and I would like to see a First Division of 18 clubs. This is a step in the right direction and could be achieved by relegating four teams at the end of next season and promoting only two teams from the Second Division.)

2. Amalgamation of Third and Fourth Divisions into four regional sections of 12. These sections to play a 22-match series in the first half of the season with fixtures repeated in the second half. Top two in each section at end of each series to qualify for promotion play-offs. Top four in play-off to go into Second Division. A similar relegation play-off for the bottom four in each section.

(A rather complicated system, but it would guarantee plenty of local derby matches and cut the cost of travelling. It must be admitted that none of the lower division clubs are in favour of regionalisation. I wonder why? The report doesn't mention that these clubs should go part-time, they cannot carry on much longer with the present structure.)

3. Home clubs to keep all League match gate receipts.

(This would make the rich clubs richer and poor ones poorer. Not entirely fair, because without opposition, Manchester United or Liverpool wouldn't draw large crowds. I know that the big clubs approve but I am against this recommendation.)

4. Greater share of any new TV cash to go to home club.

(That's only fair, they suffer the inconvenience, they should be suitably rewarded. Greater care in dividing the TV cake has been my hobby-horse for a long time.)

5. Milk Cup seeding of First and Second Division clubs at second-round stage to ensure they each meet first-round winner from lower section.

(This makes economical sense for the small clubs, but I do not like seeding in Cup competitions. The Milk Cup is a successful tournament. I would not tamper with it, only perhaps with the second round, which should be a one-match affair instead of the present two-leg tie.)

6. Gate receipts from the Milk Cup matches other than the Final to be divided equally between the competing teams.

(Illogical! What is the difference between the Milk Cup and the League? A good Milk Cup draw should benefit the smaller clubs.)

7. FA to be asked to implement a similar division of gate money for matches from third to sixth round of the FA Cup.

(Ditto! They should not legislate against the small clubs, although they might have a lucrative away draw in either of the two Cup competitions.)

8. FA to be asked to allow more than one paid director on club boards.

(I don't see anything wrong in that. It is about time that directors were properly compensated for the work they do on behalf of football clubs. Besides, such a regulation might attract more dynamic, younger people on club boards.)

9. League constitution to be changed so that a three-fifths majority is needed to approve changes instead of present three-quarters.

SIR NORMAN CHESTER . . . the man with the answers?

(This is a crucial matter, and is vitally important that it is implemented. Under the current system, a small minority always manages to put obstacles in the way of change. This is not democracy! It would be better if a simple majority would be enough, but three-fifths is a step in the right direction.)

10. All transfer fees to be paid within three months, instead of a year.

(This would kill the transfer system stone-dead. It is in a very poor state already, due to the poverty of the clubs, but if they had to pay within three months, which is almost immediately, very few transfers would take place. A recommendation I fully approve, because it would stop clubs taking insane chances on the transfer market.)

11. The league to commission research into such areas as summer football, Sunday matches and Saturday afternoon kick-off times.

(No harm in investigating, and staggered kick-off times might be of benefit to smaller clubs.)

As you can see, the Chester report is a well-researched document, it doesn't recommend changes for changes' sake, but it is trying to improve the present antiquated League structure. Clearly, reforms are necessary to stop clubs going out of existence. The writing has been on the wall for some time now, and I repeat, the clubs ignore this report at their own peril.

I led a very active social life at the end of last month when I attended two very interesting functions on consecutive days.

On the Monday I went to a sneak preview of the official 1982 World Cup film, "Gold!". It is highly entertaining, and the camera positions are excellent.

The film concentrates mainly on Italy and should be a great success there. But we also catch glimpses of England matches, spend some time with Cameroon and observe the Brazilians in action.

The film pinpoints the relentless mistake of Corver, when he ignored Schumacher's fearful charge into Battiston's body, and the impatience of the official of the Final match with the tough tackling.

The music by Rick Wakeman is very effective and it elevates the World Cup into a dramatic event. The script is serviceable but not outstanding, and the pronunciation of foreign names by commentator Sean Connery is lamentable.

On the Tuesday, I went to lunch at Whitbread's expense to celebrate the "Best of the Best" British sports awards. From a poll of 2,000 people, Whitbread selected the best sportsmen in 12 sports, and the selections were really controversial.

They had decided, for instance, that Geoff Capes was the best ever British field athlete, ignoring the claims of Olympic champions like Lynn Davies. They picked Henry Cooper as the best boxer, yet he never won a world title.

SPOTLIGHT ON WATERS

BELGIUM may not rank among Europe's leading football powers, but over the years the country has produced some fine players and fine teams.

In 1980 their national team reached the final of the European Championship, losing only 2-1 in the dying seconds to West Germany; then, in the opening match of the 1982 World Cup Finals, they achieved the distinction of defeating holders Argentina 1-0

At club level the greatest respect has been earned by Anderlecht from Brussels — twice winners of the Cup-winners' Cup — and Standard from Liege, who were runners-up to Barcelona in the same competition last season.

Now there is a new name appearing in the European hierarchy from Belgium: Klub Thor Waterschei-Genk.

Not Ghent. But Genk. A small coal-mining town with a population of about 65,000 and which stands on the Albert Canal, about 25 miles north of Liege, and close to the Dutch border.

Their experience in European competition is limited, to say the least. Before this season they had appeared only in 1980-81, also in the Cup-winners' Cup. On that occasion they defeated Omonia of Cyprus 3-1, 4-0 before falling in the second round to Fortuna Düsseldorf. The West Germans won 0-0, 1-0.

Waterschei had qualified by defeating Beveren 2-1 in the Cup Final, making up for lost time since their only previous appearance in the Belgian Cup's climatic match had been back in 1955, when they were thrashed 4-0 by Antwerp. Once they had tasted success at last in 1980, however, they decided to come back for more. And thus they qualified for the current Cup-winners' Cup with a 2-0 defeat of Waregem in the Belgian final at the end of last season.

Waterschei's accession to the top flight may be recent — they were promoted to the first division less than five years ago — but the club is not a new one. It was formed by miners back in the 1920s with local colliery help concerning facilities.

But those days are long gone. Today the club's 28,000-capacity stadium is their own and their new ambitions mean that while the majority of the players are part-timers, they can afford six full-time professionals.

They include several foreign players: the Icelandic forward Gudmundsson, a German goalkeeper in Pudelko, a veteran Dutch midfielder or defender in Van Kraay as well as the Hungarian World Cup full-back Martos. Alongside them is a fine midfielder in club captain Pierre Janssen, as well as one of the bright hopes of Belgian football in Leo Clijsters.

Up front is one of the men responsible for eliminating Scotland from the 1980 European Championship qualifiers: Eddy Boordeckers.

Waterschei's newly-found ambition has brought them to Genk, to a club whose hopes and dreams found their inspiration 14 years ago. Then, right at the end of the season, Waterschei invited A C Milan, newly-crowned European Champions, to Genk for a friendly. Milan had just beaten Ajax 4-1 for the European crown and they sent all their stars, including Gianni Rivera, one of the greatest of all Italian players.

Yet it was Waterschei who won that game, by 1-0. They were then a second division club. But this evidence that they could live with the greats put new life into the organisation. And they have progressed from that point to their present place in the Cup-winners' Cup semi-finals.

It hasn't been easy. For much of the time Genk rivals Winterslag were the dominant club in the town. And apart from that, most of the rising young talent from the Limbourg province surrounding Genk was spirited away by powerful Standard Liege.

But Waterschei earned their promotion in 1978 and have since won the cup twice and finished in the following positions in the league: 11th — 7th — 16th — 9th (in an 18-club division).

The year they finished seventh was 1980, when they also won the cup under the managerial guidance of Cor Brom. A vastly-experienced coach, formerly with Ajax, he was called in after Waterschei had picked up one point from their first five league games and had parted company with little-known Austrian coach Adi Pinter.

Waterschei captain, Jos Heyligen, raises the Belgian Cup after his club's cup final victory over Beveren in 1980.

TERSCHEI

CLUB FOCUS . . . on Waterschei of Belgium Europe's surprise team of the season

by KEIR RADNEDGE

WATERSCHEI IN EUROPE

1980-81: Cup-winners' Cup
3-1 a v Omonia Nicosia — Van Poucke, P. Janssen, Meds.
4-0 h v Omonia Nicosia — P. Janssen, Plessers (pen), Van Poucke, Gründel.
0-0 h v Fortuna Düsseldorf
0-1 a v Fortuna Düsseldorf

1982-83: Cup-winners' Cup
7-0 h v Red Boys (Lux) — Gudmundsson 2, Berger 2, P. Janssen, Vliegen, Coninx.
1-0 a v Red Boys (Lux) — P. Janssen.
2-0 a v B1893 Copenhagen — R. Janssen, Gudmundsson.
4-1 h v B1893 Copenhagen — P. Janssen, P. Plessers (pen), Gudmundsson, Vliegen.
0-2 a v Paris Saint Germain
3-0 h v Paris Saint-Germain (after extra time) — Gudmundsson, R. Janssen, P. Janssen.
Drawn against Aberdeen in the semi-finals.

Playing to the strengths of a West German spearhead in Heinz Gründel (now with Standard) and a Swedish midfielder in Per Olof Ohlsson, Waterschei clawed their way up the league and were lucky enough not to face any first division opposition on their way to the cup final.

Here they owed their 2-1 win over Beveren to a remarkable free kick from veteran skipper Jos Heyligen in the 82nd minute. The goal, and his starring role throughout the game, earned Heyligen a place in the Belgian squad for the European Championship finals.

The extra pressures of appearing in Europe the next season were too much, however. League form suffered. Brom left in mid-season and Waterschei were well beaten 5-2 by Standard Liege in the cup semi-finals.

An obvious lesson was taken to heart: to stay at the top you have to keep working. A new coach was hired in Rik Pauwels, but after a poor start to the 1981-82 season he was replaced by the present boss, Ernst Künnecke. And at last it appears that Waterschei have found the right man.

Now 45, Künnecke is a West German who has been living in Genk for six years. His career as a player was without major note. He was an inside right, but never represented West German at junior, amateur, B or senior level — the high spot of his career being a victory with Hanover 96 in the amateur championship final of 1960.

After that he slipped down the regional leagues with Hildesheim and Arminia Hannover before passing his coaching exams in Cologne under the tutelage of Hennes Weisweiler — his "model". For four years Künnecke worked with Racing Mechelen in Belgium, for one season back in Germany with Heilbronn, and then he moved to Genk . . . in 1977.

Not to Waterschei. His club were rivals Winterslag, with whom he spent two years, and then another two with Lierse — a round trip of nearly 100 miles each day. Finally he returned to Genk, to work with Waterschei . . . and make both his name, and the name of the club, whatever the outcome of their Cup-winners' Cup semi-final against Aberdeen.

THE PLAYERS

KLAUS PUDELKO. Goalkeeper. Born November 2, 1948. A West German who played for FC Jüchen, Rheydter SV and then FK Pirmansens before moving to Belgium and Waterschei in 1977. Yet Pudelko still lives in West Germany, in the village of Hückenhovem, 40 miles from Genk — so that he can remain near his parents and so his daughter can attend a German school. His worst moment in football was probably the goal with which his fellow Germans of Fortuna Düsseldorf beat Waterschei in the Cup-winners' Cup second round in 1980-81: Günter Bansemer's shot went through Pudelko's legs!

JEAN THIJS. Goalkeeper. Born June 15, 1958. Joined Waterschei as a 16-year-old from junior club AA Rekem, in 1974.

GYOZO MARTOS. Right back. Born December 15, 1949. Hungarian international who played in all Hungary's three games in the 1978 World Cup finals in Argentina, and all three first round matches last summer in Spain. Began his career with Volan Sports and made his name as a full-back or centre back with the top Budapest club, Ferencvaros. Has won 30 caps.

PIERRE PLESSERS. Centre back. Born October 6, 1956. Comes from a family with a long football tradition — brother of Gerard of Standard Liege was a member of the Belgian World Cup squad last summer. Pierre Plessers began with local club Fabriek Overpelt, and joined Waterschei in 1978. Sometimes appears lacking in pace, but a solid defender who enjoys taking penalties.

ADRI VAN KRAAY. Sweeper and occasional midfielder. Born August 1, 1953. A Dutch international with 17 caps and was a member of the Dutch squad in the 1978 World Cup finals. Van Kraay made his name with PSV Eindhoven and is the most experienced of Waterschei players when it comes to European competition, having been a member of the PSV team who won the 1978 UEFA Cup Final against Bastia of France. Van Kraay joined Waterschei a year ago.

DANNY DAVID. Left back. Born February 4, 1952. Discovered playing for a small local club, FC Herentals, and joined Waterschei in 1975. Renowned for his speed and mobility.

AIME COENEN. Utility defender. Born November 23, 1957. Joined Waterschei's youth section as an 11-year-old and has progressed steadily through the ranks — apart from season 1979-80 when he had to give his priority to university examinations.

JOHAN CONINX. Utility midfielder or forward. Born on August 15, 1952. Has played for a series of clubs, giving valuable service wherever needed. A free-kick expert who first made his name with Anderlecht, then passed through Beveren, Beerschot and Mechelen before joining Waterschei last year.

LEO CLIJSTERS. Midfield. Born on November 6, 1956. One of the best midfielders in Belgium, though he has so far missed out on the national team. Began with Patro Eisden and was discovered by Club Brugge. They were undergoing a turmoil of change and Clijsters was a victim, released to join Tongeren. Waterschei signed him last year and he was the star of their quarter-final extra-time victory over Paris Saint-Germain.

IVO PLESSERS. Midfield. Born on May 30, 1962. One of seven brothers, from the famous Limbourg football family. Brother of Pierre (also of Waterschei) and of the Standard Liege international defender, Gerard Plessers. Ivo Plessers began as a schoolboy player with VV Overpelt, then followed Pierre to Overpelt Fabriek. Joined Waterschei at 17 in 1979.

PIERRE (PIET) JANSSEN. Midfield. Club captain. Born on September 9, 1956. A member of Belgium's Olympic squad who joined Waterschei in 1977. Established himself in the team thanks to his performance in the 1980 cup final. Scored four times in the Cup-winners' Cup so far this season — including the vital extra-time goal which beat Paris in the quarter-final in Genk.

ROLAND JANSSEN. Midfield. Born on September 30, 1958. Began with AA Rekem, where Belgium and Standard Liege right back Eric Gerets made his name. Joined Waterschei in 1976 and has played for Belgium at both military and Olympic level. A hard worker who prefers the left side of midfield. Two goals in Europe this season.

WILLY VLIEGEN. Utility. Born on January 31, 1953. Began his career as a forward with FC Liege, but later moved to full back and then midfield during spells with Antwerp and then Waregem.

LARUS GUDMUNDSSON. Attack. Aged 20. Iceland international winger who has played seven times for his country — scoring a goal on his debut in a 3-0 win over Nigeria in August 1981. Joined Waterschei from Vikingur of Reykjavik after rejecting offers from Bordeaux and Nice. Missed an earlier chunk of this season because of a knee injury. Waterschei's top scorer in Europe this season with five goals.

EDDY VOORDECKERS. Forward. Born February 4, 1960. Belgian international who first made his name with Club Diest, the second division side for whom he was still playing when he made his senior debut for Belgium in a 1-1 European Championship draw with Norway in September, 1978. At the end of the season Voordeckers joined Standard Liege and, under the guidance of Austrian coach Ernst Happel, was poised to enhance a reputation for attacking play earned at international junior, military and B level. However, a back injury affected his confidence. Happel left Standard and he became almost a forgotten man. Waterschei signed him last summer and under the coaching of Ernst Künnecke, Voordeckers is putting his career back together. He has played five times for Belgium and in November, 1979, scored his team's second goal in the vital 2-0 win over Scotland in the European Championship qualifiers.

Mexico set to stage 1986 World Cup

Special report by KEIR RADNEDGE on the first – and biggest – shock of the 1986 World Cup.

MEXICO, never apparently in the running until around two months ago, is apparently to stage the 1986 World Cup finals.

It is a decision as extraordinary as any concerning these bedevilled finals and may already have been made official by the time this magazine hits the stands.

A decision on whether to switch the 1986 event to Mexico, the United States or Canada is to be announced after the FIFA executive committee meeting in Stockholm on May 20. It might even have been announced already — at the end of the special fact-finding mission to Mexico in mid-April.

With every further day wasted a blight on the 1986 finals, it would have made sense to delay a decision until May only if the investigators — a five-man commission headed by FIFA's World Cup chairman Hermann Neuberger of West Germany — found a major obstacle.

Solution

In that case, with Canada and the United States already ruled out and Brazil having failed, through lack of government support, to pursue their own case, the emergency solution would be West Germany. (Forget fanciful notions about England — they had even less chance than Italy, who didn't exactly cover themselves in international glory during their staging of the 1980 European championship).

But the chances of that happening appeared so remote as to be almost invisible.

The trouble all began when Colombia were awarded the 1986 finals in the dying days of the Stanley Rous administration at FIFA in the first half of 1974. Those were the days when the World Cup involved only 16 finalists and four centres were enough to cope with the matches.

A matter of days after Colombian officials learned of their political success, so Joao Havelange ousted Rous as FIFA president and set about expanding the finals, thus driving a long knife into the Colombian back.

Havelange, to repay third world voters who had backed his presidential bid, was committed to expanding the finals to take 24 teams.

The prospect of trying to cope with this gargantuan concept stunned Colombian officials into frightened inertia. In desperation they sought government support. But when it finally became clear, last autumn, that this would not be forthcoming, they had to own up — formally notifying FIFA of a decision which had been long expected.

Colombia could no longer stand as hosts.

As I said, that announcement had been long anticipated. Intense lobbying among prospective replacement hosts had been under way during last summer's World Cup finals, months before the Colombian withdrawal.

It appeared to be between Brazil and the United States, with Brazil favourites because of their great tradition and enthusiasm for the game. The American trump cards lay in their financial and organisational expertise. The argument that the troubled American professional game *needed* the World Cup was less persuasive — whatever the public pronouncements of the likes of Pele.

At first it appeared that the United States and Canada might offer a joint candidancy. When this idea fell through the Canadians decided to go it alone. So now there were three.

And lastly, Mexico entered the arena. On the face of it, the most unlikely of candidates. After all, they had staged the finals only as recently as 1970 and had long been making headlines around the world on the international/financial front because of their economic crisis.

Optimism

But Mexico had hidden reasons for optimism. One of these lay in the controversial position of Havelange. While a Brazilian he could not, as FIFA president, be openly seen to be trying to manipulate FIFA in the direction of Rio. So when he praised Mexican ambition, no one took him seriously. It appeared he was just trying to be fair.

That he was in earnest emerged only with the presidential elections within the Brazilian football confederation. Havelange swung his backing behind the challenger to incumbent CBF president Guaise Coutinho, whom Havelange publicly labelled "a loser". And Havelange left his aides in no doubt that "if Coutinho wins the election there is no chance of Brazil's bid gaining government support".

So it proved. And when FIFA's deadline for 1986 hosting applications passed the field had been reduced from four to three: the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Dummy run? . . . Three of the most influential men in the game at the recent World Youth Cup draw in Mexico City. From the left: Rafael Del Castillo, president of the Mexican federation; Teofilo Salinas, president of the South American confederation; and Joao Havelange, president of FIFA.

Congress

As for Brazil, it was President Joao Figueiredo who took the decision. Coutinho appeared to have persuaded congress that the nation would earn £140 million profit from staging the finals. But Figueiredo reckoned that a country with the unenviable label of the world's largest debtor nation didn't dare take the risk.

"Maybe in 1994," he appeared to be saying — and duly fulfilled Havelange's pessimistic view of Coutinho.

Now there appeared to be nothing to stop the United States landing the finals. Canada and Mexico's claims appeared lightweight by comparison.

A brilliantly-presented dossier of the American World Cup dream supported the optimism. They envisaged a potential minimum income of £240 million, around four times the profits from Spain last summer; they promised to "sow" turf pitches on top of their artificial grass; and "organise" the draw so that the main teams would be placed in locations where support could be guaranteed.

And then came the bombshell, on Thursday, March 31. A statement from FIFA House in Zurich revealed that "after careful study and consideration" the investigating commission had decided to pursue only the Mexican bid.

The United States and Canada were, to all intents and purposes, discounted.

Not surprisingly, there was hell to play. The anti-Havelange faction in Europe, its anger fanned by an eager press, jumped immediately on the bandwagon, suggesting that Mexico couldn't hope to cope and that the finals could finish up in West Germany, England or Italy (depending on which country's newspapers you read).

Even Yugoslav Bora Milutinovic, Mexico's national team manager, couldn't quite believe it. He said: "I was quite happy with the prospect of the finals in the United States. It's right on our doorstep. I didn't think beyond it. But to be hosts . . . that's just incredible!"

North of the Mexican border sentiments were very different.

Outrage

NASL president Howard Samuels described the decision as "an outrage", and a personal insult to President Reagan, who had declared his government's support for the project.

He added: "When you look at the growth of the game in America today — it's the fastest-growing team sport — it is shocking that FIFA won't send their officials to personally examine our country and give us the opportunity to show what we can do."

USSF president Werner Fricker fired off a telex of protest. Canadian Deputy Sports Minister Pete Lesaux also announced that Canada would seek to negotiate further. But their chances appeared doomed.

Political

Had Fricker, Samuels and Lesaux followed the international football/political scene more closely they wouldn't have been taken so unawares. Back at the start of December, just over a fortnight after Colombia pulled out, Mexico were tipped as favourites by Artemio Franchi.

And Franchi is not only president of UEFA and a vice-president of FIFA, he is also a member of the investigating commission. Six weeks later came Havelange's Mexican hint — and in February the Spanish magazine Don Balon published a remarkable report that negotiations with Mexican broadcasting and television officials had already reached an advanced stage.

So, why did Canada and the United States fail?

Stadia

In the Canadian case the most obvious reason is that despite FIFA's well-publicised insistence on a minimum of 12 stadia, they suggested only nine. And that in turn suggested a shortfall in facilities and will quickly put them out of contention.

But what about the US? First leaks from FIFA laid heavy emphasis on the huge distances between suggested venues on east and west coast. That there were plenty of stadia was not in doubt. Indeed, the Americans could well have suggested restricting the World Cup to the east coast.

Distances between cities were no larger than those which would have been involved had the finals gone to Brazil (and it's fair to assume that emergency host plans drawn up more than a year ago by Brazil had been given tacit approval).

Where then, was the answer to be found for the American rebuff?

I understand FIFA felt that the Americans had been so busy building up the economic advantages that the dollar signs had blinded them to the fact that the World Cup finals – commercial bonanza that they have become – are built on a foundation of football matches. And I also understand that the Americans ignored, or dealt only summarily, with large chunks of FIFA's investigative questionnaire.

Mexico's willingness to address the task in hand thus won them the vote.

Problems

There will be problems. European television demands; a match timetable which could again — as in 1970 — see games played in the heat of the noonday sun; the altitude. And yet the Mexicans point out that "their" 1970 finals were among the most memorable in the history of the game. That the heat, by slowing the games down, by tiring the players and thus producing more mistakes, actually contributed to the excitement.

Detractors will add that the chances of a team such as the Brazil of Pele, Jairzinho and Tostao emerging to grace the 1986 finals are minimal.

But that's not up to Mexico. . . .

Paulo Rossi

CARLOS RAMIREZ reports from Mexico City:

DESPITE the recent economic problems — something far from unique to Mexico — these are not a problem to the finals being staged here.

Basically the stadia are ready and there is a lot of money inside the country to support the organising authorities. On top of this the tourist trade has been revived and is a strong factor in the recovery of the economy.

Mexican football federation president Rafael Del Castillo came in for heavy criticism from some sections of the media for saying that "Mexico would need only five million pesos, cans of paint and brushes to stage the World Cup," but it is a fact that the country has a lot going for it.

A poll has shown that 75 per cent of the population are in favour of the finals — a higher percentage than in Brazil, the United States or Canada.

FLOODLIGHTS

Three quarters of the suggested stadia have lighting which complies with FIFA needs. However most matches would be played at noon or four in the afternoon, so lighting would be no problem.

MEDIA

The television communications tower would appear to be more than adequate, having been created originally to handle the worldwide links for the 1968 Olympics and 1970 World Cup. Press centres have already been tentatively assigned. Three-quarters of the stadia have facilities to provide the required number of radio and television commentary cabins and commercial sponsors have agreed to provide press desks.

Radio and TV installations would be the sole responsibility of the networks and so the Mexican federation would not undertake any financial liability.

Salaries and expenses for organising committee employees will be deducted from profits and can be easily financed through the cash advances FIFA generally make available.

The general secretariat and other offices would be installed in the Centro de Capitacion (Youth Training Centre), owned by the Mexican federation and equipped with all the necessary facilities just 500 yards from the Aztec stadium.

ROADS, AIRPORTS

ALMOST all venues suggested have international airports and are linked with excellent road and rail services. Puebla, Toluca and Queretaro are the exceptions. However they are linked to Mexico City by rail and motorway.

Puebla and Toluca are one-hour's driving time from the capital while Guadalajara is 45 minutes away by plane and 17 direct daily flights connect it with the capital. Guadalajara is the second largest city in Mexico, with 3.5 million inhabitants.

Monterrey is 75 minutes from Mexico City by air, and there are now seven daily flights. Leon is 35 minutes by air but 4½ hours by car. It has a population of one million.

Tampico-Madero (twin cities of the Gulf of Mexico) have a combined population of 500,000 and are 45 minutes by air from the capital. So is Veracruz.

STADIA

Stadium	City/town	Owners	Capacity	Seats
Aztec	Mexico City	Private	110,000	All seats
Olimpico	Mexico City	University	85,000	78,000
Ciudad/deportes	Mexico City	State	60,000	45,000
Jalisco	Guadalajara	Private	72,000	All seats
Tres de Marzo	Guadalajara	University	37,500	35,000
Cuauhtemoc	Puebla	Municipal	45,000	37,500
Bombonera	Toluca	Private	37,500	32,000
Universitario	Monterrey	University	60,000	All seats
Tecnologico	Monterrey	Private	37,500	All seats
Campo Nuevo	Leon	Private	40,000	All seats
Luis de la Fuente	Veracruz	Municipal	35,000	All seats
Municipal	Irapuato	Municipal	35,000	All seats
J L P	Netzahualcoyotl	Municipal	37,500	All seats
Tamaulipas	Tampico	Private	30,000	All seats
Municipal	Ciudad Juarez	Municipal	30,000	All seats
Torreon	Torreon	Private	35,000	25,000
Municipal	Queretaro	Municipal	40,000	All seats
Municipal	San Luis Potosi	Municipal	40,000	All seats

From SUE MOTT in New York

TEAM AMERICA—MANUFACTURED!

"ARE THEY not all good-looking young men," beamed Alkis Panagoulias, the new US national soccer team coach when he introduced the freshly-minted Team America to the Washington press last month.

In fact, "minted" is hardly the word. Manufactured, more like it.

For the sixteen players who smiled sweetly into the flashbulbs are the potential saviours of the North American Soccer League and they are being packaged accordingly.

Every detail, down to a patriotic strip of blue starred shorts and red striped shirts, has been designed to attract an American audience to a professional sport on the verge of imminent collapse.

The players are handsome, their home base is Washington DC and the President himself may be asked to kick-off the first home game. But cosmetic aside, the real appeal is that the players are not aliens but true Americans.

The original concept of Team America was to field a team of home-grown talent and pit them against NASL opposition to sharpen their skills and experience for internationals.

To that end, Team America would play in the NASL for a possible three seasons, with remission to compete in the LA Olympics and World Cup Qualifiers (unless as hosts they attend automatically).

As concepts go it was bold, simple and probably the envy of every national team manager in the world who is used to conducting team talks by phone and recognising his players from photos.

But disagreements between the NASL, the United States Soccer Federation and the investors intensified to the point of "internecine warfare", as NASL President Howard Samuels put it, and the fate of Team America hung in the balance.

* *The necessary budget of $3 million was nowhere to be seen.*
* *Some NASL teams, notably the New York Cosmos, were reluctant to lose their best American players to a team who would become league rivals.*
* *The USSF, officially responsible for the US National Team, resented the League muscling in on their turf.*
* *The players were hugely affronted that they had not been directly consulted about the scheme and decided to remain aloof. In one succinct and celebrated quote, Cosmos defender Jeff Durgan rejected the plan saying it came from "the same buffoons that screwed up before".*

But then a real estate millionaire put $750,000 on the table, a tobacco company promised the same in sponsorship and the players were given pep talks on patriotism.

Clubs were told that if they sacrificed two or three players to the team, they would be allowed to play one more foreigner. Team America was on the road.

The quests of King Arthur were evoked to set the tone of the venture, and chief investor, Bob Lifton, declared that when Team America cast off its league disguise to become the full-blooded national team, it would be like Clark Kent suddenly turning into Supermen.

From quest to comic strip — and indeed the whole project had an aura of cartoon unreality until 26 players were summoned to Tampa to audition for the team.

For two weeks they drilled under the watchful eye and smouldering cigar of Panagoulias, the former Greek national coach, and the extent of his problems rapidly became clear.

"For too long American talent has been stifled," he said. "When they get the ball they just look around for a Cruyff or Beckenbauer to take over. They need confidence, a belief in their abilities and the desire to be a leader not a follower."

The vacuum was most obvious in the creative midfield and forward positions, and to make matters worse several key players were absent.

A trio from Seattle, including last season's American Player of the Year, Mark Peterson, elected to stay at home on the promise of the Sounders' new owner to Americanise the team.

Steve Moyers, heir apparent to the veteran Cosmos striker Giorgio Chinaglia, decided not to risk his princely status.

Ricky Davis, the only American soccer player famous enough to be in soap commercials and described by Panagoulias as the "one automatic choice for the team," attended camp but eventually decided to stay with the Cosmos.

Curiously enough it was Durgan, once the out-spoken opponent of Team America, who became its most wholehearted advocate. "This is the first time the American players have been given the chance to show what they can do. We aim to surprise a few people," he said.

Panagoulias, who was an instant hit with his new players, was equally optimistic. "The Americans are the most coachable guys in the world and this makes me very comfortable. They are well-educated, highly motivated and athletically inclined.

"What I need to do now is 'irritate' their pride. Teach them to be mean."

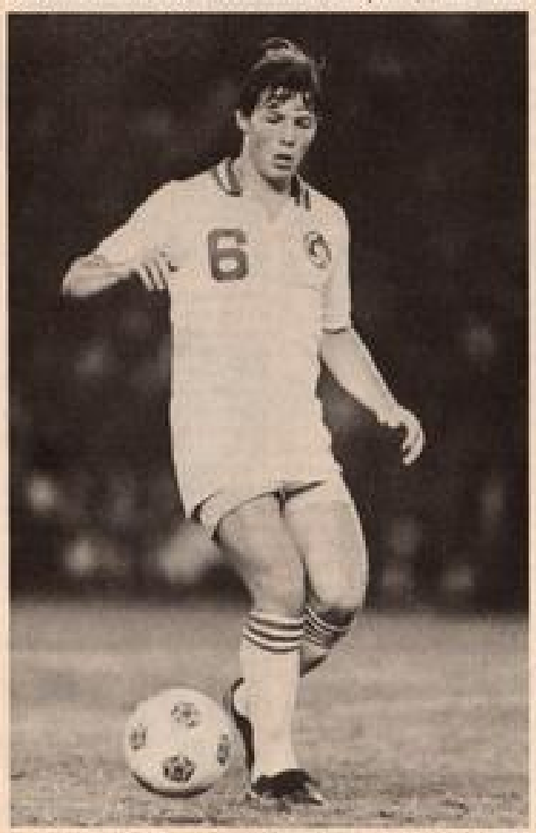
He will also have to teach them to integrate the variety of skills, temperaments and cultures that the team has brought together.

The old gag that runs: "How long does it take to build a US national team?" Answer: "Five years until the foreigners are made citizens," still carries a large element of truth."

Of the sixteen players currently named to the team (with four or five more expected to come from the ranks of the indoor league) seven started out life abroad.

And there is reportedly a rush to grant Pato Margetic, the brilliant Argentine forward at Chicago, his citizenship and thereby make him eligible for selection.

At first it was feared the conglomeration of nationalities would unsettle the squad but with the good-humoured spirit fostered by Panagoulias no trace of ill-will has been evident.



Rick Davis of Cosmos . . . decided to stay with his club.

Jeff Durgan from Cosmos . . . decided to join the Team America squad.

One potential trouble-spot however will be the drafting of the rebel players like Davis, Peterson and Moyers for the prestige international games.

As Durgan said: "I think we need the players here on Team America committed to the project from Day One. We made the commitment from the beginning and we can't have other guys coming along who will disrupt it."

In the meantime, a Caribbean and South American tour is being arranged for Team America prior to the opening of the League season at the end of April.

Their opening game in the NASL will be at Seattle, home base of the rebels. It seems a curious choice until you know that the fixture list was drawn up BEFORE the Seattle trio decided to pull out. The match is now being viewed with grim amusement at NASL headquarters.

Washington's first glimpse of their "good-looking team" will not be until May 8 when Team America's Tulsa is scheduled, and all manner of enticements will be on offer to fill the RFK Stadium.

Beau Rogers, the Team's publicity ring-master, hit upon the original idea of printing clues to a $20,000 treasure hunt in the match programme.

If that doesn't succeed he plans to double bill Team America with musical entertainment, middle-of-the-road rock bands like the Beachboys or Fleetwood Mac. Perhaps a five-a-side match against the Rolling Stones is in the pipeline.

But for all the blatant marketeering, the NASL's one prayer is that an appeal to plain old patriotism will be enough to stir the masses to rekindle the fervour of last year's famous US victory over the Russian ice-hockey team.

In truth NASL support has never been particularly fervent. Last season's average attendance was just over 13,000 and the clubs lost an estimated $25 million. Free "T" shirts proved ineffective against baseball and basketball, whose players are true-blue American and lauded as the best in the world.

TEAM AMERICA ROSTER

Player	Age	Birthplace	Last team
Goalkeepers			
Paul Hammond	29	England	Seattle
Arnie Mausser	28	New York	Tampa Bay
Defenders			
Jeff Durgan	21	Tacoma, WA	New York
Alan Merrick	32	England	Toronto
Dan Carter	22	New Jersey	Ft Lauderdale
Bruce Savage	21	Hollywood, FL	Ft Lauderdale
Hayden Knight	25	Trinidad	Montreal
Midfielders			
Perry Van Der Beck	23	St Louis	Tampa Bay
Rob Olsen	23	Fairfax, VA	Georgia (ASL)
Sonny Askew	25	Baltimore	Toronto
Rudy Glenn	24	Lawton, OK	Chicago
Vidal Fernandez	24	Mexico	San Diego
Forwards			
Tony Crescitelli	25	Italy	Golden Bay
Pedro DeBrito	23	Cape Verdan Is.	Tampa Bay
Chico Borja	23	Ecuador	New York

Team America aims to break that monopoly. With a little help from the immigration department, it is being billed as "American as Apply Pie" and as for being the world's best . . . the next year will point the way.

If sheer enthusiasm and good coaching can earn them a few league wins and a 20,000 plus crowd, the season will be a success. And from that base a squad of world-beaters may eventually emerge.

On the other hand, if the Team gets whipped to a souffle every week by the League's ageing foreigners, the whole trembling structure of US pro-soccer could collapse.

"I know this is the greatest challenge of my career", said Panagoulias. "I am not afraid."

But there must be plenty of people in the League who are.

* * *

IN THE days when Clive Toye was president of the New York Cosmos he was instrumental in bringing Pele, Giorgio Chinaglia and Franz Beckenbauer among others to the North American Soccer League, thus giving the league the credibility that it had previously lacked.

Now president of the Toronto Blizzard, Toye seems about to pull off another signing of significence and the player involved is Juventus star Roberto Bettega. With the exception of some fine print, Bettega's move from Turin to Toronto is all but complete with the actual date of the transfer depending on where Juventus stand in their quest for the European Cup and the Italian league championship.

Bettega and his wife Emanuela spent four days in Toronto in early February looking over accommodation and during that time he agreed in principle to a contract for three years with a two year option that is said to be worth about one million dollars.

In signing Bettega the Blizzard are hoping to attract a large segment of the cities thousands of Italian fans, who have been noticeable by their absence from the terraces of Exhibition Stadium ever since the team was formed four years ago.

When Bettega does arrive to play for the Blizzard he will join a team that is now being tipped as a contender for this years Soccer Bowl, a team that is well coached by Bob Houghton and boasts a considerable amount of experience and youthful promise.

Swedish international Jan Moller will be returning for his second season while last seasons all-Canadian back four of Victor Kodelja, Randy Ragan, Pasquale DeLuca and Bruce Wilson are still intact. Add to this Irish international Jimmy Nicholl (who has been on loan to Sunderland all winter), Swedish international Conny Karlsson (recently signed from IFK Goteborg) and two very promising young players in Trevor McCallum and Paul James (recently the subject of inquiries from Swansea City) and one can see that the Blizzard have plenty of depth.

In the midfield the club has lost former West Bromwich Albion player Alan Merrick to Team America, but added Arno Steffenhagen from the Chicago Sting to join South African Ace Ntsoelengoe an NASL all-star last year, and Cliff Calvert. Nicholl will probably be used in midfield rather than in defence as he was last year.

Playing 4-4-2 last season the two front runners were South Africans Neill Roberts and David Bryne and they will be back but not David Fairclough who didn't seem to fit in with the clubs style.

The Blizzard also have some very talented young Canadians just waiting for a chance and included among them is youth international Colin Miller about whom Scottish Premier League club Motherwell made inquiries recently.

Four page special on South America by Eric Weil

Incentive for 1984 World Cup Poles?

ARGENTINA'S World Cup 1974 defender said it . . . Poland's Wladyslaw Zmuda, who also played in the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany denied it, but other Argentine players of that squad confirmed it — Argentine players had paid $1,000 each out of their own pockets to pay the Polish players to go all out to beat Italy in the same group.

Poland had already qualified, but Argentina could only do so if the Poles beat Italy.

Enrique Wolff's story, which came out during a TV interview, caused quite a commotion. The press immediately asked other players of the Argentine 1974 World Cup squad and most of them confirmed it.

Wolff wondered why Zmuda should deny it. "Perhaps because at the time he played as an amateur and the matter could still cause him trouble now," Wolff thought. But there is another possible explanation. The money was given to an Argentine journalist to hand over and may not have reached its destination. Witnesses have come forward however to say that they saw it being handed over to a Polish reserve as soon as Poland won the game. "Perhaps somebody kept Zmuda's share," Wolff commented.

Wolff also admitted that Argentine FA officials knew about the matter, but would have nothing to do with it and turned a blind eye. At the time, he said, there were also rumours going around that the Italians were trying to bribe the Poles to give them the game.

The Argentine FA immediately said it would investigate the matter, but nothing more has been heard from them since Wolff's revelations on TV in February.

One question remained: why did Wolff come out with this story nine years later and what was to be gained by it? Especially these players from that squad still in activity — goalkeepers Fillol and Carnevali, midfielders Squeo, Babington and Brindisi and forwards Kempes, Ayala and Houseman — must be thinking they cannot possibly gain anything by it.

ZICO WANTS TO STAY AT HOME

ARTUR Antunes Coimbra, one of the world's most famous and outstanding players — "Zico" to you — ends his contract with Brazil's Flamengo at the end of May, but the club already has a good offer ready for another two-year contract for the 30-year-old star.

But what Zico really wants is a three-and-a-half-year contract due to expire during the next World Cup finals after which he intends to retire from the game. According to local rules, Zico becomes a free agent in two years when he will be 32 and will have played 18 years for the same club, but he says he is not interested in selling his contract to a foreign club as he would like to stay in Brazil . . . and with Flamengo.

Becoming a free agent at the age of 32 is no big deal for the player. He says that Pele influenced this rule a lot. At that time a player would become a free agent after 10 years with the same club.

"But can you imagine Pele as the owner of his own contract at the age of 27," Zico says.

"It was because of him that Joao Havelange, then president of the Brazilian Sports Confederation, managed to change the law to apply to players only once they were 35 and only after intense pressure from the players union was it reduced to 32," he says.

MAJOR TRANSFERS

CARLOS BABINGTON (former Argentine international midfielder) from Huracan (Argentina) to Junior Barranquilla (Colombia) for $70,000 . . . **CARLOS BARISIO** (FC Oeste, Argentina, goalkeeper who holds the Argentine league record for keeping his goal intact) to Boca Juniors (Argentina) on free transfer . . . **MIGUEL BRINDISI** (former Argentine international midfielder) from Boca Juniors (Argentina) to Nacional (Uruguay) for one year for $20,000 and transfer option of $60,000 . . . **EDGARDO BAUZA** (Argentine international defender) from Rosario Central (Argentina) to Junior Barranquilla (Colombia) for $200,000 . . . **LUIS GALVAN** (Argentine international defender) from Talleres Córdoba (Argentina) and **OMAR REINALDI** (former Argentine international striker) from Belgrano (Córdoba) to Lomas Negras (Argentina) . . . **JUAN J. LOPEZ** (former Argentine international midfielder) from Talleres Córdoba (Argentina) to Boca Juniors (Argentina) . . . **EUGENIO MOREL BOGADO** (former Paraguayan international) from San Lorenzo (Argentina) to Cerro Porteño (Paraguay) for $15,000 . . . **NUNES** (former Brazilian international centre-forward) from Flamengo (Brazil) to Botafogo (Brazil) for one year for $79,000 and transfer option of $261,000 . . . **ENZO FRANCESCOLI** (Uruguayan midfielder) from Wanderers (Uruguay) to River Plate (Argentina) for $370,000 . . . **ANTONIO ALZAMENDI** (Uruguayan winger) from River Plate (Argentina) to Nacional (Uruguay) for $80,000 and Nacional's Uruguayan winger Alberto Bica

* * *

SANTOS WINS ITS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GROUP WITH SERGINHO AS LEADING SCORER

THE first stage of the Brazilian national championship — with 40 leading clubs playing in eight groups — has finished.

Now the top three from each group plus four winners of elimination matches between fourth-placed teams and four teams promoted from the Brazilian second division championship — a total of 32 teams — fight out the second stage divided into eight groups of four teams each. The top two from each group then go into the next stage of the lengthy championship.

Santos topped group A with their high-priced international striker, Serginho (from Sao Paulo) ending the first stage of the championship as top scorer with 11 goals followed by Socrates (Corinthians) and Flamengo's new centre-forward (from Gremio) Baltazar with eight goals each. Santos inflicted the only defeat on Flamengo — 3-2 in Sao Paulo watched by 111,000 fans and with Serginho scoring two of these goals. Flamengo were second.

Serginho of Santos, top scorer in the Brazilian championship so far.

Creative midfielder Norberto Alonso, back in the Argentine national squad.

Defending champions Gremio of Porto Alegre just made it from group B behind Ponte Preta, while Sao Paulo, still going strong, topped group C as one of three unbeaten teams — group E winners Palmeiras (Sao Paulo) and Rio champions Vasco da Gama (joint group H winners with Nautico) were the others. Corinthians, the popular Sao Paulo team, won group D with debt-riddled Fluminense of Rio taking joint second place after a poor start which saw them all but eliminated . . . but they came back to win their last four games.

Unfashionable Ferroviaria won group G from which Rio's Botafogo just made it on a fourth place play-off. They got Nunes, unhappy with Flamengo, on a year's loan with an option to buy for a total of $340,000. Rio's America, coached by Zico's older brother Edu, won group F.

Meanwhile leading Brazilian referee, José Wright, who had carried a tape recorder with him during a Flamengo-Vasco da Gama league match and then played it on TV, causing quite a scandal, was absolved by the disciplinary committee which had originally suspended him for 40 days . . . but he was not given any games to control for two months.

COLOMBIA — MORE FOREIGN PLAYERS

TO increase interest and gates, the Colombian league (DIMAYOR) is this year allowing its 14 professional clubs to sign seven foreign players and allow up to five to play in any one match.

Last year it was three and the arguments immediately started about this measure further killing Colombian soccer and weakening it internationally. At the same time however a Brazilian player signed by Medellin was deported for "working with a tourist visa."

There has also been an increase in foreign coaches with seven clubs being this year managed by Argentines — Junior de Barranquilla (Jorge Solari), Caldas (Hernan Perez), Quindio (Luis Castagno), Union Magdalena (Jorge Castelli), Deportivo Cucuta (Hugo Londero), Bucaramanga (Jose Montanini) and Tolima (Raul Navarro as player-coach) — and four by Uruguayans — Nacional (Luis Cubillas), Millonarios (Juan Mujica), Santa Fe (Ricardo Faccio) and Medellin (Julio Comesana).

There is also a new championship set-up making this long championship a little shorter. The first championship, for the "Copa de la Paz" (Peace Cup) is being played with the 14 clubs divided into two sections and facing other section rivals and one team from the other section twice — a total of 14 games. The section winners will play off for the title and the two second-placed clubs for third place.

These four clubs will then get bonus points for an eight-team final round — one point for the winner, three-quarters of a point for the second, half a point for the third and a quarter of a point for the fourth. The second stage will be the national championship in which all clubs play each other twice — 26 games — and the top eight will qualify for the final championship round.

At the same time the top four will also get bonus points for the final round — two for the winner, one-and-a-half for the second, one for the third and half a point for the fourth to be added to any bonus points obtained previously . . . A new set-up which did not meet with every club's approval.

Opening matches had what were for Colombia poor gates — an average of 16,725 per match.

CHILE — PLAYERS STRIKE THREAT

COLO Colo won the four-team play-off between clubs placed second to fifth to take second place in the Chilean first division and a place in the Libertadores Cup with champions Cobreloa and a month later the pre-season "Polla-Gol" tournament had already started . . . but a players strike almost stopped the start of the new season and was still threatening.

The FA said it would definitely not help out clubs financially any longer — clubs already owed it over $1 million — and as a result they have had to reduce wages and bonuses. Apart from that most players are claiming payment arrears of between four and eight months amounting to over $2 million. Lengthy negotiations produced one small morsel for the players — contracts would be for a maximum of two years and players would become free agents at expiry. Although players insisted on being paid at least part of their arrears to start the new season, it started on time while negotiations were continuing.

This year's pre-season tournament, being played in two sections of 10 clubs — the first division having been increased from 16 to 20 clubs — also has increased importance, because the top two teams will qualify for next year's Libertadores Cup. Chile's big two clubs over recent years have not made an auspicious start. Champions Cobreloa have won only one of their first three games, vice-champions Colo Colo have a 1-1-1 record, but Universidad Catolica, disappointing last season and now without former national team coach Luis Santibañez who has resigned, have started with two wins and one loss.

ELSEWHERE . . .

IN Peru, after all the rows which held up the championship late last year — when the clubs and FA could not agree on whether four or six clubs played in the final round and the clubs only finally agreed on four but playing each other twice — the final stage was decided with the four clubs playing each other once due to lack of time.

The 1982 championship finally ended on February 13, 1983, with Universitario beating Lima rivals Alianza 2-1 and taking the title with their three matches won followed by Alianza with four points and Juan Aurich and Municipal one each.

IN Venezuela, the professional championship started with 10 clubs — two less than last year due to Portugues, Valencia and Deportivo Galicia (two being founder members of the league) dropping out because of financial problems.

The tournament will also be much shorter than last year with the 10 clubs just playing each other twice and no final round between the six leading clubs as in recent years. Venezuela, still the poor (and newest) relation of South American soccer, are cutting down to try and consolidate. But there is one new club — Mineros de Guayana.

Four page special — on South Am

PARREIR BRAZILIA

WEEKS of speculation ended when the Brazilian Football Federation picked Carlos Alberto Parreira — the Brazilian who took little Kuwait to last year's World Cup finals in Spain — to succeed Tele Santana as Brazil's national team manager.

Parreira, who was also assistant coach under Mario Zagalo to the Brazilian team which won the 1970 World Cup, was only given a one-year renewable contract and he had to work fast to assemble a squad for a friendly international which Brazil was due to play at the end of April — against as yet undecided rivals — before going on a tour of Europe in June with matches scheduled against Portugal (8 June), West Germany (12 June), Switzerland (17 June) and Sweden (22 June), to be followed by the South American Championship qualifying group games against Argentina and Ecquador.

And Perreira, like another new manager, Carlos Bilardo in Argentina, may also plump for older experienced players. After accepting the job, he said: "Brazil has the best players, but not the best soccer . . . The Brazilian player's potential is enormous, but it is not being properly harnessed for the benefit of the team . . . I have no preconceived tactics. These will only be decided on when I see the players I have to work with . . . But I go for complete physical fitness. A player must participate in the match the full 90 minutes . . . Age is not important. No Brazilian team can do without such stars like Zico, Socrates and Falcao . . ." (All three will be 33 years old by the time the next World Cup is played.)

Brazil had to withdraw its bid to stage the 1986 World Cup finals when its government refused to give it support in March. (The International Football Federation (FIFA) has ruled that countries can only stage the finals if their governments support the event.) The decision came in the midst of a severe foreign exchange crisis with Brazil unable to meet payments on its huge foreign debt and this was the principal reason . . . but even so it seemed strange.

Brazil is a country with more than enough big stadiums to stage the event and apparently requiring few, if any, installations to be built to fulfil FIFA's requirements to stage the finals. Only the day before the government's decision, Giulite Coutinho, president of the Brazilian Football Federation, had obtained the support of parliament after telling its members that the tournament would make a net profit for Brazil of 197 million dollars . . . and he was as surprised as anybody by the government's decision.

★ ★ ★

MEXICO has the same foreign debt problem, but the Peruvian president of the South American Football Confederation, Teofilo Salinas, thinks Mexico is the only Latin American country today which is in a position to stage the finals . . . and Mexico so far has its government's backing of their bid to stage the event.

Mexico showed they can do it in 1970. They have at least 10 stadiums with a capacity of over 35,000 — including the 110,000-seater Azteca stadium in Mexico City, which is one of the biggest in the world, and they have the edge over the United States and Canada in one aspect — they have the fans with soccer being their number one sport.

Tourism secretary Antonio Enriquez Savignac said: "By 1986 we should have overcome the worst of our current economic crisis and the arrival of tourists — who will find their stay here to watch soccer comparatively cheap — will bring welcome foreign exchange as well."

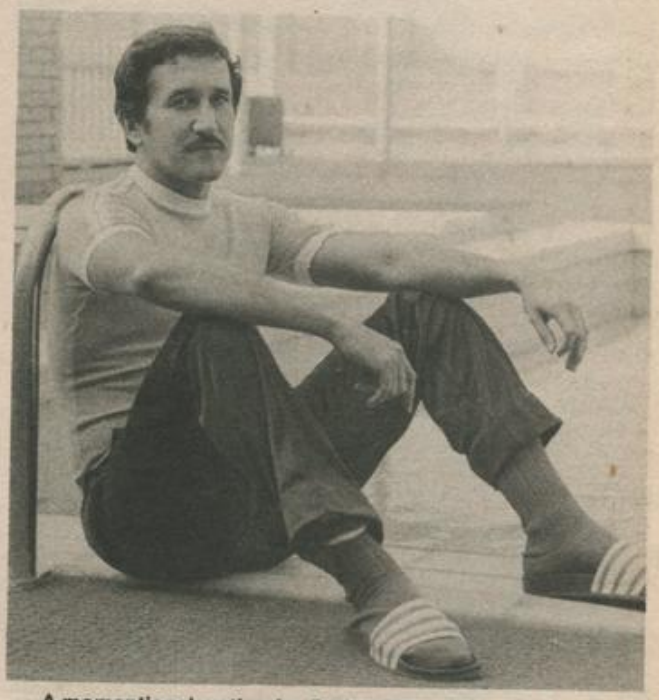
★ ★ ★

WHAT may have been the longest-ever free-for-all between players in a soccer stadium ended the South American Junior Championship in La Paz, Bolivia, 13 minutes early.

The rest of the time was spent by fighting between the Brazilian and Argentine players following a doubtful penalty decision by the Costa Rican referee, Luis Siles, which gave Brazil a 3-2 lead. Reserves of both sides joined in and some 50 police in the stadium, in spite of using their truncheons, just could not control the players.

Brazil and Argentina entered the field for the last match level on three points from their previous two final-round games, while Uruguay was a point ahead with their three games played. It meant that a draw would have been enough to give the Brazilians the title on goal difference, while Argentina needed a win to become champions, so the spark was there to cause an explosion at any moment, specially taking into account the constant continental rivalry for supremacy between Argentina and Brazil.

Argentina led 2-1 at half-time in a match with a lot of petty fouling and plenty of goal opportunities for both sides, which was not too well handled by the Costa Rican referee, who lacked authority — lending force to the argument that important tournament matches should be handled by referees from leading soccer countries who would be expected to have more experience, an argument which started during the last World Cup finals in Spain.



A moment's relaxation for Carlos Alberto Parreira. But he won't get many more. Kuwait's World Cup manager has returned home to Rio to take over Brazil.

Brazil equalised with a penalty shortly after half-time and a minute later an Argentine player (García) was sent off for rough play in an incident no worse than dozens which had happened before. This got his team mates heated-up and when after 31 minutes Brazil was awarded another penalty (which Giovanni again converted) the explosion came.

It did not look like a penalty and television replays confirmed it. Argentine defender Enrique slid at Benetto's feet, cleared the ball cleanly and the Brazilian fell over him. The referee was well behind play, which came from a fast Brazilian counter-attack, but he had no hesitation in awarding the penalty.

Nobody can say with any degree of certainty whether the fighting started among reserves of the rival teams or on the field where Argentine goalkeeper Islas was seen to race up to the half-way line punching right and left like a madman. What is certain, however, is that the useless Bolivian police contributed to it on a large scale. Instead of trying to control the players they hit them to increase their fury and at the same time they deployed forces to attack photographers who were taking shots of the scene instead of getting on with their job.

The referee left the field immediately the incidents started and suspended the match for "lack of guarantees". The Argentine players, who were finally persuaded to sit down in the centre of the field by their coach, Pachame, left much later when South American Confederation president, Teofilo Salinas, had to go on to the field to persuade them that the match had been terminated and that the decision could not be appealed against.

Two weeks later the South American Football Confederation declared Brazil champions, with the 3-2 result standing, severely warned both teams, fined the coaching staffs of both teams $2,000 for having participated in the fight — the players, as "amateurs", could not be fined — and suspended Argentine goalkeeper Islas for 100

outh America — **by Eric Weil**

EIRA NEW LIAN BOSS

days as he apparently received the major blame.

The result left Uruguay, the defending champions, in second place and Argentina third, with all three qualifying for this year's Junior World Cup finals in Mexico — virtually a foregone conclusion as home team Bolivia had been out of their depth in the four-team final round and ended with three defeats.

Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay included a number of players with first division experience in their squads limited to players born after July 31, 1963, and perhaps Argentina could improve most by the time the Junior World Cup finals come along. Their team did not have as much preparation as the others and due to Cesar Menotti's contract as Argentina national coach being terminated last year, they came under a new coach, Carlos Pachamé — with notoriously different tactics and ideas — only a couple of weeks before the event.

Fourth-placed Bolivia, like the other three, also qualify for the Pan-American Games soccer tournament (for which the South American Championship was also an eliminator) which will be held in Caracas, Venezuela, in August, but there is a cloud over their participation. Bolivian police investigations, instigated by local press reports, found that at least seven of the players had falsified identity papers with changed birth dates and that they were actually over age.

Actually there should be no age limit for athletes in the Pan-American Games, but as the agreed qualifying tournament — the S.A. Championship — did have an age limit, this is something the South American Football Confederation will have to decide.

★ ★ ★

ARGENTINA's Estuadiantes de La Plata, the team which won the Libertadores Cup for three years running from 1968–70 with their famous "anti-football", almost did not start their sixth intervention in the tournament for which they had qualified as first division champions.

The players' demands for extra bonuses to play in the tournament were not accepted by the club which, fearing a heavy loss as in their previous interventions (when the players took most of the money), would only offer to share the profits. The club said it would withdraw from the competition if there was no agreement.

During the lengthy negotiations, which concluded only shortly before their opening match, the players alleged they had received telephone threats against themselves and their families if they did not agree to the club's offer. Also conspiring against their chances was the fact that their final first division match (postponed due to incidents published in last month's *World Soccer*) was played only a month before the start of the new season and the physically-tired players were then taken on a tour of Colombia, which was cut short when they were heavily beaten in their first two matches.

Estudiantes meanwhile also had lost their coach, Carlos Bilardo, who took them to the first division championship and then moved into the job as new national team trainer. In their opening Group 1 cup match they showed they were not the same team as they drew 0-0 at home with Argentine rivals, FC Oeste, who came much closer to victory. Chile's Cobreloa and Colo Colo are the other two teams in the group.

Other groups also opened with draws between rivals of the same countries . . . which seems to have become almost a tradition.

Group 2 kicked-off the 1982 championship with the 1-1 draw between Brazilian rivals Gremio (Porto Alegre) and Flamengo (Rio), the 1981 cup winners. Flamengo's newcomer from Gremio, Baltazar, scored the year's first cup goal after 16 minutes and De leon equalised 10 minutes from the end.

Both teams had changed compared with last year. Grêmio had decided to sell the more expensive players of the squad, such as Leão, the goalkeeper that took part in three World Cups: in 1970 as a reserve, and 1974 and 1978 as first choice, but was never called by Telê, went to Corinthians. Batista joined Palmeiras, Paulo Isidoro went to Santos and Baltasar went to Flamengo.

Replacements were reserve goalkeeper for eight years Remi, inside right Oswaldo, purchased from Ponte Preta, Tita from Flamengo and centre-forward Cesar, bought from Benfica of Portugal.

As a result Grêmio lost a bit in strength in midfield but gained a more relaxed style. Flamengo changed only two players, Tita and Nunes. The centre-forward who scored twice against Liverpool in Tokyo, had a row with coach Paulo Cesar Carpegiani and was loaned to Botafogo. An important acquisition was Robertinho, right-winger from Fluminese.

Junior, the World Cup left-back, was having problems, however, sorting-out a new contract due to 100 per cent inflation without a corresponding increased revenue. He threatened not to play this game, but renewed his contract two days before only to suffer a shoulder injury in a training session in Porto Alegre, on the eve of the game.

The match referee was World Cup Final official Arnaldo Cesar Coelho. Although he has been vetoed by Flamengo in the state league since 1977. The allegation by Flamengo is that Coelho, a Flamengo supporter in his youth, in trying to demonstrate his impartiality as a referee was usually too hard on them.

Grêmio started better but in the ninth minute Zinco, 30 years old a day before, sent the ball dangerously over the bar from a free-kick. Seven minutes later, with the crowd booing the former idol Baltazar, Zico stole the ball from De Leon, and crossed to Baltazar, who slipped it over Leandro, and volleyed Flamengo ahead.

Grêmio fought back, Tita hit the post and Grêmio forced some fine saves from goalkeeper Raul. At the start of the second half Zico hit the bar from a free-kick. But with 10 minutes to go De Leon went forward at a corner and scored the equaliser with a shot from outside the area.

In Group 3, Peru's Universitario and Alianza played to a 0-0 draw, while Colombia's America Cali (with their new buy Willington Ortiz — Colombia's top player — opening the score from the spot) and Deportes Tolima drew 1-1 . . . The only exception so far was that Bolivian champions, Bolivar, trounced their Group 2 rivals and vice-champions, Blooming, 6-0 with Salinas scoring three second-half goals.

Uruguayan qualifiers, Wanderers, joined FC Oeste's clamour for dope control to be introduced in the Libertadores Cup, but the South American Football Confederation said that only four of the 10 South American countries — Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay — have adequate laboratories to handle this.

On March 19 the new Argentine team manager, Carlos Bilardo, picked an 18-player squad to start mid-week training immediately. It was new because it included only five players who went to the last World Cup finals — goalkeepers Fillol and Pumpido (the latter never played), defenders Enzo Trossero and Olarticoechea and winger Calderón — but it hardly included any new players, because its average age was close to 27, although in all only six of the players have had previous international experience.

But as Bilardo himself has said that the ideal age for a team approaching the World Cup finals is between 24 and 27, this squad has been picked merely for this year's South American Championship in which Argentina faces Brazil and Ecuador for a place in the semi-finals.

Other outstanding inclusions in the squad are the return of midfielder Norberto Alonso, still an outstanding creative midfielder at 30 who has 17 caps, played in the 1978 World Cup finals, but never got on well with Menotti and gained no further caps since; Midfielder Claudio Marangoni who had a spell with Sunderland in England, was overlooked for the 1978 and 1982 World Cup finals and now at 29 it may be too late for him for the next World Cup; Midfielder Alex Sabella who played for Sheffield United and Leeds United in England and has just had an outstanding season with Estudiantes de La Plata, the club Bilardo took to the first division championship before becoming national team coach . . . but Sabella is also 29; Striker Carlos Morete, a former international and top scorer in the last first division championship, but he is 31.

The rest of the squad, including a majority of Independiente players — six — is Oscar Garré (defender, 27), Jorge Burruchaga (midfielder, 21), Ricardo Gareca (striker, 25), Oscar Ruggeri (defender, 21), Pedro Magallanes (striker, 27), Carlos Arregui (midfielder, 29), Ricardo Giusti (midfielder, 27), Jose Brown (defender, 27), Julian Camino (defender, 22).

All these players have been banned from being transferred abroad as well as 12 others, all under 23, less known, but all with first division experience.

Bulgaria fail to live up to their potential

WHEN 43-year-old Ivan Vutzov, Bulgaria's centre back in the 1966 World Cup finals, took over as manager of the national team last September he faced a major dilemma, writes KEIR RADNEDGE.

While Bulgaria remain respected opponents at international level, their achievements have consistently failed to live up to their potential.

On four occasions in the last 21 years they have qualified for the finals of the World Cup. Yet their 12 matches at the climax of the game's premier competition have brought them four draws and eight defeats and only nine goals.

In the European championship they have never reached the finals, despite having competed ever since the tournament's inception in 1958-60. Bulgaria did reach the 1968 quarter finals, only to fall to an Italian side who provided a debut for the great Dino Zoff in goal.

So, while over the years Bulgaria has given the international game a number of superb players — Ivan Kolev, the so-called 'Pocket Puskas' in the 1950s, then Dimiter Yakimov and two fine centre forwards in Petar Zhechev and Georgi Asparoukhov — the latter sadly killed in a car crash when approaching the peak of his career — they have remained among Europe's 'Second division' of nations.

Their club sides have occasionally made Europe sit up. CSKA Sofia, the army club, boast the proud record of having, at one time or another, eliminated reigning European champions Ajax Amsterdam (1973-74), Nottingham Forest (1980-81) and Liverpool (1981-82).

And CSKA were also bitterly unlucky in the European Cup in 1967 when they lost a semi-final to Internazionale of Milan by 1-0 in Bologna — having lost the toss for choice of venues.

CSKA are record champions of Bulgaria, having won the league on 22 occasions since being set up in 1948 under the name of CDNA (they changed their name in 1964, but remained all-powerful under the patronage of the Bulgarian army). But it is Levsky-Spartak, the country's most popular club and one of the oldest, who have more cup wins to their name: 13.

Current national boss Vutzov was himself a Levsky player but it is no doubt to CSKA that he will look for the backbone of his team against Wales. His reliance on CSKA was made immediately obvious when Vutzov named the squad for his first match in charge, a friendly against Malta.

No fewer than NINE CSKA players were included!

CSKA have always had the pick of Bulgaria's star players and proved the fact recently when they signed Georgi Slavkov, a left-winger who topped the 1981 European scoring charts with 31 goals for Trakia of Plovdiv.

One man especially pleased by the transfer was CSKA goalkeeper Georgi Velinov, a former Footballer of the Year and one of the most consistent of Bulgarian players. Now there was his most dangerous opponent taken out of the firing line!

Bulgarian footballers are all 'state amateurs', supposedly paid nothing for their football, though in fact they are granted limitless 'time-off' concessions from their official places of work. But lately the federation, trying hard to reshape Bulgarian football to improve its quality, has introduced one major incentive.

This is to allow veteran stars the chance of a transfer abroad, to the west to cash in on their fame in the final years of their careers. Most notable example is Andrei Jeliazkov, a tall strong forward who now plays his football in Holland with Feyenoord.

All those who line up against Wales in Wrexham on April 27 know that a good result could work in their favour when the federation come to decide who is the next man to be granted an exit visa.

Goalkeeper Velinov could be one, so could CSKA attacking colleagues Zdravkov and Djevizov. But first they have to put the results together. And so far Vutzov hasn't been too happy with 'his' national team.

During the winter break the national squad travelled far and wide looking for match practice to try to knit the team together. But matches in Italy, Greece, Portugal and even the Ivory Coast appear — on the evidence against Poland — to have achieved little.

Vutzov has his back against the wall.

NATIONAL SQUAD (AND UNDER-21)

GOALKEEPERS

GEORGI VELINOV. CSKA Sofia. Aged 25 with 2 caps. The 1981 Footballer of the Year and one of the best goalkeepers in eastern Europe.

Also: Zafirov (Spartak Varna 33/2), Valkov (Botev Vratza), Michailov (Levsky-Spartak).

DEFENDERS

PLAMEN NIKOLOV. Right back. Levsky-Spartak Sofia. Aged 25 with 32 caps. Has been an ever-present in Bulgaria's last 13 internationals, going back to autumn 1981.

GEORGI TINCHEV. Centre back. CSKA Sofia. Aged 24 with 7 caps.

DINKO DIMITROV. Centre back. CSKA Sofia. Aged 21 with six caps and who was unlucky enough to be dropped after the recent 7-0 win over Malta!

NIKOLAI GRANCHAROV. Left back. Levsky-Spartak Sofia. Aged 29 with 22 caps. At one time rated among the best full backs in Europe for his power and pace.

GEORGI ILIEV. CSKA Sofia. Aged 23 with five caps. Can also play in a defensive midfield role.

Also: Alexander Markov (Lok. Sofia, 21/0), Nikola Mladenov (CSKA), Tenev (Beroe Stara Zagora), Borissov (Varna), Arssov (Marek Stanke Dimitrov), Marinov (Trakia).

MIDFIELD

TZVETAN YONCHEV. CSKA Sofia. Aged 25 with 34 caps. Bitterly unlucky in the recent Champions' Cup tie against Sporting Lisbon. His shot hit the bar in the last minute of the second leg — and CSKA were eliminated on the away goals rule.

PLAMEN MARKOV. CSKA Sofia. Aged 25 with 35 caps. One of the finest young midfielders in the eastern block — both hard-working and astute.

GEORGI SLAVKOV. CSKA Sofia. Aged 24 with 14 caps. One of the most prolific scorers in Bulgarian football lately. His 31 goals in 1980-81, while with Trakia, earned him the Golden Boot as Europe's top league scorer. Slavkov had begun his career with CSKA, become disillusioned, then regained his appetite for football with Trakia Plovdiv . . . before CSKA signed him back.

BOYCHO VELICHKOV. Midfield/forward. Lokomotiv Sofia. Aged 24 with 14 caps — surprisingly few for a player who has been in the Bulgarian limelight for several years now.

Also: Nedenov (Spartak Varna, 25/4), Spassov (Levsky-Spartak, 26/9), Valchev (Levsky-Spartak, 26/11), Ivanov (Cherno More, 28/0).

FORWARDS

SPASS DJEVIZOV. CSKA Sofia. Aged 27 with 14 caps and one of the best forwards in Bulgaria in recent years. A key man in the successful overthrow of then holders Nottingham Forest in the 1980-81 European Cup. Back in favour after a row with the previous national boss.

STOICHO MLADENOV. CSKA Sofia. Aged 25 with 29 caps.

HRADOSLAV ZDRAVKOV. Attack or midfield. CSKA Sofia. Aged 26 with 35 caps. The current Bulgarian Footballer of the Year.

ROUSSI GOCHEV. Striker. Levsky-Spartak. Aged 24 with 18 caps. Scored Bulgaria's late equaliser in the 1-1 home draw against Switzerland on March 9.

KRASSIMIR BEZINSKY. Midfield/attack. CSKA Sofia. Aged 19 with four caps. Made his international debut at the age of 18 in a 3-2 defeat by Italy in a friendly in Bologna. He appeared as a substitue quarter of an hour from the end.

KOSTADIN KOSTADINOV. Trakia Plovdiv. Aged 24 with 28 caps. Made his debut as a substitute in the 3-0 defeat by the Republic of Ireland in Dublin in October, 1981.

Also: Sadakov (Lok. Plovdiv of second division, 21/7), Lachshiev (Etar Tirnovo, 24/4), Eranossyan (Lok. Plovdiv, 21/3), Jordanov (Trakia, 28/8), Yanchev (Blagoevgrad), Bakalov (Trakia), Bakardiev (Cherno More), Dragolov (Beroe), Tanev (Spartak Pleven), Stoev (Lok. Sofia), Pechlivanov (Trakia), Paschev (Trakia).

Turkey in the third division of Europe . . .

by Keir Radnedge

TURKEY rate as 'third division' among the national teams of Europe.

Only on one occasion have they reached the finals of the World Cup, in 1954, when they beat Spain thanks to a blind Italian boy who drew lots after the teams had finished all-square at 2-2 in a Rome play-off.

They have never reached the finals of the European championship.

None of their clubs have ever achieved anything of note in the European tournaments.

Yet the one high spot in their history remains the fact that it was Turkey whose 3-1 win over Hungary in Istanbul in February 1956 signalled a final curtain for the great Magical Magyars of Ferenc Puskas.

Turkey has provided few players to make a reputation beyond their own borders. But one such was the goalkeeper Seren Turgay, who played 51 times for his country between 1950 and 1966. Virtually all his career was spent with Galatasaray, one of the most popular Istanbul clubs.

Another star was Kucukandonyadis Lefter — an appropriately-named outside left who played 50 times for Turkey and wandered from club to club. After starting with Fenerbahce, he moved to Italy's Fiorentina, Nice in France, and AEK Athens in Greece (of all places for a Turk!) before returning home.

Turkish football got off the ground in the last decade of the 19th century, mainly thanks to the British, whose enthusiasm rubbed off on the local people. Yet for many years football organisations had an unenviable time, for political unrest as the old empire broke up meant that even the most innocent organisations were harassed and broken up for fear of being used as a cover for political agitation.

The three 'greats' of Istanbul — Besiktas, Galatasaray and Fenerbahce — were, even so, set up in these pioneering years and survived to grow amid a second English 'business invasion' after the first world war.

In 1923 the Turkish federation joined FIFA and, three months later, Turkey played their first official international, drawing 2-2 against Rumania in Istanbul.

In the 1924 Olympics in Paris, Turkey were beaten 5-2 by Czechoslovakia in their first match, and even worse, in the 1928 Games in Amsterdam they crashed 7-1 to Egypt in the opening match.

It was not until 1952 that professionalism was introduced yet the Turks have still not got around to developing a standard system of promotion and relegation. Any team which wishes to move up into the first division must prove it by results — difficult when you don't meet the top clubs in the league — by facilities, by support and by cash reserves.

While the main football attention is centred on Istanbul, the national stadium is in fact in Ankara (capacity 35,000). The fans, like the players, are excitable — which accounts for the fact that Turkey have gone through four national managers in as many years.

Now in charge is Coskun Ozari, back at the helm this season, two and a half years after disappearing from the top-flight when dismissed by Galatasaray. So far his national team record remains unconvincing this season: Played 6 Won 1 Drawn 1 Lost 4 Goals 4-15.

THE PLAYERS

SENOL Gunes. Goalkeeper. Trabzonspor. Aged 28 with 29 caps. A fine goalkeeper who, in the autumn of 1978, went through one spell in which he conceded only one goal in 15 games — going 1,230 minutes unbeaten. He went even beyond that in the 1981-82 season, when he conceded only 11 goals in the 32-match league programme. Joined Trabzonspor in 1973 and is club captain. A teacher by profession, Senol was Turkey's Sportsman of the Year in 1979.

ESER Ozalindere. Goalkeeper. Galatasaray. 28/15. Regained his place in the recent 3-1 draw with Rumania — his first senior cap for more than four years.

ERDOGAN. Right back. Fenerbahce. 26/9. Recalled to the defence against Rumania recently for the first time in four years.

BILAL. Centre back. Ankaragucu. 24/4. Made his international debut in the 5-0 defeat by Hungary at the start of the season in September.

FATIH. Centre back. Galatasaray 32/48. A key figure in the centre of defence for half a dozen years. Usual national team captain.

HAKAN. Left back. Altay Izmir. 23/5. Made his international debut in the 1-0 European championship victory over Albania in Smyrna in October.

MUZAFFER Dil. Centre back. Galatasaray. 23/4. Dropped after the 4-0 defeat by Austria in the European championship in November.

ERCAN. Midfield. Remirspor (Adana). 20/0. One of the new men soon to be thrown in at the deep end.

MUJDAT. Midfield. Fenerbahce. 20/0. Another newcomer to the squad.

ARIF. Midfield. Fenerbahce. 31/5. Made his debut in the 1-0 win over Wales in Izmir in November, 1979.

HUSEYIN. Midfield. Gaziantspor. 26/3. Made his debut in the 1-1 draw with Rumania in January.

Besiktas goalkeeper Adem saves from Peter Withe during the 'closed doors' Champions' Cup-tie at Villa Park last autumn.

SENOL Corlu. Midfield. Trabzonspor. 24/4. Brother of the goalkeeper.

ALI KEMAL. Midfield/forward. Besiktas. 31/34. Played against Arsenal in the 1979-80 Cup-winners' Cup while with Fenerbahce. Once suspended from the national team for going AWOL from the team camp on the eve of a friendly against Algeria. It might have been all right — but Turkey lost the game!

ERDAL Keser. Midfield winger. Borussia Dortmund (West Germany). 21/2. Son of a Turkish immigrant worker in West Germany who joined Bundesliga club Dortmund from minor side SSV Hagen in 1977, when still a 18-year-old youth. Made his Turkey debut in the 5-0 defeat by Hungary at the start of the season. Because of the confusion over Turkish nomenclature, he is known as Erdal in Turkey, but as Keser in West Germany.

ILYAS Tufecki. Midfield winger. Schalke (West Germany). 23/4. Like Erdal Keser, the son of an immigrant worker in West Germany. Brought up in West Berlin, playing as a youth with Sudost Berlin, Tus Wannsee and top club Hertha Berlin. Then he joined Stuttgart and switched to Schalke in 1981. Known as Ilyas to the Turks, but as Tufecki in West Germany.

HASSAN. Attack. Trabzonspor. 24/3. Played in all three games this year — making his initial debut in the 1-1 draw in Istanbul against Rumania in January.

METIN. Forward. Besiktas. 19/2. The most promising of all young Turkish players. Made his national team debut in the 1-1 draw with Rumania in Istanbul in January. Scored the Turks' goal in Belfast.

SELCUK. Attack. Fenerbahce. 23/6. Highly skilled player who admires everything Brazilian and tries to ape their style of play — preferring to dribble and beat a man than move the ball on. Leading scorer at halfway in the Turkish league with ten goals, which included a hat-trick against Trabzonspor. Famous because of the way his speed and skills have earned so many penalties. Top league scorer last season with 16 goals.

Curse of Havelange World Cup farce

THE Curse of Havelange has descended upon us again. His abominable, bloated, unmanageable 24 team World Cup has produced a situation of total farce.

Colombia, predictably, had to withdraw their claims. More significant and alarming still was the decision of the Brazilian government to refuse to back the competition. Brazil, a mighty country both in territorial expanse and football prestige; a natural and obvious place, you might have thought, to put on a World Cup.

So, *faute de mieux*, it seemed as if the tournament would go to the United States. True, there is a chasm there between football in the schools (*pace* the weird nonsense spoken by Ulster's Harry Cavan about it) and attendances in the ailing, waning NASL, which has signally failed to generate spectators from the playing generation of the late 1960s.

(Thereby re-emphasising the following of NASL policies of encouraging the affluent white suburbanites, rather than the blacks, to play, in the greedy and cynical hope of attracting the suburban dollar.)

But at least the stadia, the expert knowledge, the communications were abundantly there.

Journalists would have loved it, of course, especially after Spain, where nothing much worked, and police at the Madrid Press centre and stadia embarked on what seemed a policy of active provocation. With almost every other American country excluded for one reason or another, the USA's claim seemed unanswerable.

Centres

Then one read in the Barcelona magazine *Don Balon* dark tales (which one could not, of course, for a moment believe) of siren songs being sung from Mexico. Till lo and behold the smoke cleared, the USA had been eliminated on the absurd grounds that their centres were too far apart (with jet travel?) and Mexico, God help us all, seemed set for the tournament.

Yes, folks, Mexico, whose colossal international debit was such that is seemed set to bring down the whole world banking system. (So much for FIFA rulings that any country putting on the World Cup must have government backing.) Mexico, whose dizzying heights means that competing countries from sea level must spend vastly expensive months preparing. Mexico, where noon kick-offs in intense heat, when the 1970 World Cup was prostituted to European television, put the poor players under appalling physical pressure.

I never shall forget driving back in a taxi from Leon to Guadalajara with Geoff Hurst, who had just played heart and soul out in the quarter-final against West Germany, and was not only exhausted but dehydrated. How we stopped in a tiny, decrepit village to buy him a soft drink; and to take a salt pill from my jacket in the boot of the car. But then sports administrators never do give a damn for athletes.

In blowing up the World Cup into a 24 team Moloch, or if you prefer it, Frankenstein's monster, Frankenstein J. Havelange has made it a burden too big for almost any country to bear. He has had to pay off his electoral debts to the Afro-Asian delegations which put him in power; and where supine FIFA have, astonishingly kept him, unopposed. What leadership! What "leaders!" Why should so great a sport be afflicted with such contemptibly inadequate administrators?

I repeat what I have said before; that I do not care if every one of the finalists in a World Cup comes from Africa and Asia, provided they be there on merit. Indeed, it is high time the African nations fully expressed all the marvellous talent they have so long had at their command.

Insane

But what we have had has been an insane expansion of the World Cup at increasingly severe cost. It would be utterly farcical were Mexico — themselves the perpetual also rans of Latin American football, so often unimpressively present in the finals — to be given the World Cup.

Then who *will* be proffered, finally, the poisoned chalice? England would certainly make a decent job of it. Italy might. The embarrassing truth being that, the World Cup being as cumbersome and voracious as it is, no remaining Latin American country could put it on. Brazil's refusal should have represented the kiss of death, the final, devastating word, on the 24 team World Cup. Let us piously hope the lesson has been learned; but FIFA, our present, pitiful FIFA, is scarcely in the business of learning lessons.

★ ★ ★

BY THE time you read this, it is to be piously hoped that Bobby Robson will have come back down the wrong turning and embraced more productive policies with his England team.

We were, last month, talking about the Long Ball Heresy, but never did I expect there to be such an alarmingly opposite text provided by England's inept performance in their match against Greece.

Nothing that Robson did in that game made any obvious sense. To pick a couple of moderate sized, quick, technically adroit strikers such as Woodcock and Francis then ply them with long balls, cutting out an inadequate two-man midfield, was folly enough. But it was compounded when Robson, afterwards, publicly lamented the absence of front men who could get their heads to the ball.

Only the previous week, in Genoa, Trevor Francis had been lamenting to me the English habit of hoisting 40-yard balls to hapless strikers who were forced to battle for every one of them with surrounding defenders. You never, he said with some bitterness, saw the likes of Tardelli and Cabrini boot such balls; the kind which Peter Withe was supposed to make something of when Villa played Juventus in Turin, in March.

How often, he asked, rhetorically, did you see Paolo Rossi obliged to challenge for a high ball, to flick on? The ball was invariably played to his feet.

But though he played a splendid, largely unsupported, game against the Greeks, the service verged on the ludicrous. In the match programme, Bobby Robson was busily defending Graham Taylor and his long ball Watford tactics. Could it, we wondered uneasily, be true that Robson was leaning towards these essentially crude, *faute de mieux*, tactics; even if they *had* recently worked well for the England youth team, now controversially entrusted to Taylor, in a couple of matches in Israel?

As Enzo Bearzot, Italy's team manager, observed to me recently in Allodi-free Coverciano (though alas, he's just down the road at Fiorentina), the short pass is essentially a preparation for the long; but there are terribly few players in the world today with the peripheral vision to deliver the long pass. Francis freely admitted in Genoa that he was a player whose game relied on moving away from the opposition; but there must be someone to give him the ball. Someone like Liam Brady.

Lively

To Watford . . . or not to Watford? The successes of that lively and likeable team, so intelligently and originally managed, the pretentious simplistics of so called Match Analysis, keep the controversy boiling and bubbling along.

Those who believe that Taylor is poisoning the very roots of the game could scarcely be reassured by the fact that when he took the England Youth team to Israel some weeks ago, he encouraged them to hit long balls over the midfield to a couple of wingers; and substituted a defender who questioned the tactics. His supporters, however, will have been heartened by the fact that in each game England won, scoring four goals.

Combating the claims and theories of Match Analysis, the latest neo-orthodoxy to emerge from the ivory tower of the coaching department in Lancaster Gate, is hard. It

causes

was that formidable thinker Karl Popper who insisted that by truly scientific proposition must be capable of disproof.

Well, you cannot disprove Mr Charles Hughes (whom God preserve), his Match Analysis, and his acolytes. Say that the success of mighty Liverpool, with their emphasis on possession football, learned in a long apprenticeship in Europe, disproves their conclusions, and you will be told that if Liverpool, so much more talented than Watford, only used the Watford tactics, they would be more formidable still.

Splendid

Such theorising seems to me, I confess, to inhabit the wilder shores of nit-wittery. Yet I am emphatically not opposed to Graham Taylor and his splendid Watford; indeed I wish them every possible continued success, as a fine, honest team who have found the way to make the best of what ability they have, which is surely the secret of all success in football.

The great abyss between the deeply esteemed Mr Hughes and Taylor is that Taylor is involved in the day-to-day maelstrom of League football. His job depends on his results. Mr Hughes has had the Olympic and England amateur team in his time, but even here, he was out-smarted in the mud by little Wales, led by the former Olympic player, Idwal Robling.

Analyse as much as you like, football is simply not a game, thank goodness, which lends itself to such pseudo-science. Many years ago, with many a dull diagram, Wing Commander Charles Reep showed us that Wolves and their long ball game were the royal road to success. Then, in the European Cup, Barcelona came to the Molineux mud, thrashed Cullis' Wolves, and a myth had bitten the dust: or the mud, if you prefer it.

Long ball tactics are in essence a short cut.

The BRIAN GLANVILLE column

Watford, as one has had reason to remark before, use them because they have a rotten back four, not much of a midfield, and a number of excellent front men. Boot the ball to Barnes and Blissett and they, with their power, their skill, their speed, can make anything happen. As for Taylor's success in Israel with the England youth team, I see that, again, as sensible application of good, simple tactics. With no time at all to elaborate something more sophisticated — the kind of thing which Liverpool, once a long ball team, have developed over the years — long passes to a couple of wingers can, as in Israel, be extremely effective.

Yet I do not believe that a return to the so-called classic tactics of the English game, the long ball and the high cross to a big centre-forward, will ultimately pay off. Whip up statistics, and you can prove any damn thing. Football, though, is not the stop-go American gridiron game. Try to categorise and schematise it, and it will sturdily resist you.

Theory

Those who manage League clubs have better things to do than elaborate such doubtful theory. A long pass, *per se*, means nothing at all; any more than there is true significance in the claim that the majority of goals come from movements involving four or fewer passes. Define a pass. And what of the sustained, individual, run which can come between one pass and another. Pseudo-science, my friends, the kind of thing which got the FA Coaching Scheme discredited in the latter days of good old Walter Winterbottom, when phrases such as "peripheral vision" and "environmental awareness" had League managers rolling in the aisles.

★ ★ ★

NOT that Liverpool have attained any sort of perfection. I seem to have upset Bob Paisley with an article in the *Sunday Times*, after Juventus had beaten Villa in Birmingham, which said that the technical gulf between our football and the best in Europe remained immense, and that England success in the European Cup over the past six years was merely the consequence of a sharp decline in the European game.

I am unrepentant. I still believe that this is true, and call to witness such wretched experiences as Liverpool's Euro Finals against Bruges and Real Madrid, Nottingham Forest's against Malmo and Hamburg, Aston Villa's last year against Bayern Munich. As Arnold Wesker's heroine Beaty Bryant proclaims in his admirable play, *Roots*, "You've got no majesty."

Qui s'excuse, s'accuse. The force of good old Bob Paisley's denial, all that stuff about "insulting" Nottingham Forest and Villa, shows that the thrust has gone home. I admire Liverpool enormously as a club, just as I admire Paisley himself as a manager, but I do not see how you can possibly deny that the level of the European has, over the past six or seven years, gone down; that English clubs have prevailed in those circumstances through organisation, stamina, pace and morale in a way they were never able to do when the likes of Real Madrid, with Di Stefano, Ajax with Cruyff, Bayern Munich with Beckenbauer bestrode the European game.

Just compare the Bayern teams which won the European Cup three years in a row with that which laboured away to lose — undeservedly, it is true — to Aston Villa in Rotterdam.

Many years ago, the late Jimmy Hogan, true founder of the Vienna and Hungarian schools of football, told me how in 1932 he'd brough his Austrian Wunderteam to London to play England at Stamford Bridge. The Saturday before the game, they all attended a League match between Chelsea and Everton in which two of the game's great centre-forwards were playing, Dixie Dean for Everton, tiny Hughie Gallacher, for Chelsea. The game consisted, Hogan remembered with disgust, of the ball being belted down the middle of both teams, in the hope of reaching their centre-forwards. The Austrian players, who would give England a terrible fright the following Wednesday, before losing 4-3, couldn't credit it.

Not that the long ball and the high cross have ever been out of date, *per se*. It was especially ironic that during the 1954 World Cup, certain English critics should be excoriating the "old fashioned" high cross at the very time that the Hungarians, moral if not actual victors of the tournament, were using it to perfection to exploit the talents of "Golden Head" Sandor Kocsis.

England goalkeeper Peter Shilton punches clear during a rare Greek raid at Wembley.

SANTOS ARRIVE—THINGS CHANGE

History of the Libertadores Cup — Part one — by Eric Weil

THE birth of the Libertadores Cup — known in its early years simply as the South American Championship for club champions — was a logical consequence of the European Cup for national champions started in season 1955-6.

The South American Football Confederation thought it would be a good idea to have a similar competition on their continent and they sat down to organise it at their meeting in 1958.

Among leading soccer officials at this important meeting in Brazil were Raul Colombo (Argentina), Lydio Quevedo and Mendoza Sanchez (Paraguay), Dr. Quiroga (Bolivia), Luis Troccoli, Washington Cataldi, Fermin Sorhueta and Julio Bracco (Uruguay), Teofilo Salinas Faller (Peru), now the Confederation's president, Juan Gobi (Chile) and Abilio da Almeida and current FIFA president, Joao Havelange (Brazil).

A letter received by the then Confederation president, José Ramos Fleites from UEFA secretary general, Henry Delaunay, hurried up the proceedings. It suggested a two-legged annual play-off between the European Cup winners and South America's top champions. But it was not until the following year's Confederation meeting in Buenos Aires that it was definitely decided to go ahead and the rules and regulations were only approved at a further meeting held in Montevideo on February 18, 1960.

The worthy officials in at the birth of the competition envisaged that it would be a means of bringing South American countries closer together from a sporting angle and that it would be highly profitable from a professional viewpoint. Ironically it was neither as could later be seen from the incidents caused and the number of participating clubs it has left virtually bankrupt. The cash turn-over was certainly high in most cases, but those to benefit most were the players who virtually blackmailed their success-hungry clubs for ever higher bonuses.

Yet in spite of everything, the competition soon caught the imagination of the fans to such an extent that it easily overshadowed the South American Championship for countries — for the America Cup — which ceased to be held regularly as a result. In fact, it also overshadowed domestic championships as clubs placed so much importance on it to the point of fielding weak league teams to rest players for "the cup".

The beginning was quiet however.

Only seven clubs of the 10 eligible — one from each South American country — took part in the first edition which was played as a two-legged (home and away) knock-out and in most countries the clubs and their fans still put more importance on the domestic championship.

The very first match was played in Buenos Aires on April 20, at Huracan's stadium, between hosts San Lorenzo, the 1959 first division champions of Argentina, and Esporte Clube de Bahia who had won their state championship in Brazil and then beat the famous Santos FC for the honour of representing their country. San Lorenzo, lining up Sanfilippo on those days, won 3-0, but only 6,650 fans turned up to see them do it . . . not a very auspicious start.

San Lorenzo went through to the semi-finals on a 5-3 aggregate and being drawn to play Uruguay's Peñarol — who were well supported by their fans in this competition — they drew both legs with them, but then gave up home advantage for financial reasons to play off in Montevideo where they lost 2-1 to Peñarol. The Uruguayans then became the first ever winners of the trophy when they beat Paraguay's Olimpia — who had a first round bye — 1-0 in Montevideo and drew 1-1 in Asunción.

The Peñarol side included such famous players as defender Walter Martinez, midfielder Goncalves and forwards Cubilla and Spencer (Ecuador) and were coached by the no less famous Roberto Scarone. Other clubs to take part in this inaugural competition were Jorge Wilstermann (Bolivia), Millonarios (Colombia) and Universidad de Chile.

LUIS CUBILLA . . . outside-right for Penarol of Uruguay in their Libertadores Cup triumphs of 1960 and 1961 and later their coach as well as boss of 1979 winners Olimpia of Paraguay.

PENAROL FOR SECOND TIME

A year later Peñarol — always more interested in international competition than their domestic tournaments — retained the title and the tournament had made no significant advance in popularity, except in Uruguay of course.

This time nine clubs took part — with Ecuador and Peru entering clubs for the first time.

The tournament was again played as a two-legged knock-out and Peñarol, who eliminated Universitario (Peru) in the quarter-finals and the previous year's finalists, Olimpia (Paraguay), in the semi-finals, retained the title by beating Palmeiras of Sao Paulo (Brazil) in the final which repeated the first year's scores. Peñarol won the first home leg 1-0, with Spencer scoring just as he had done in the corresponding final leg in 1960, and then drew 1-1 in the away leg.

Peñarol this time lined-up other players who made a name for themselves in South American soccer history such as Matosas, Sasia and Joya (apart from the aforementioned) while the Palmeiras team, coached by Zezé Moreira, had defender Djalma Santos in their line-up. The first leg in Montevideo was watched by 50,000 and the second leg in Sao Paulo by 40,000 . . . Things were looking up.

SANTOS ARRIVES AND THINGS CHANGE

IN 1962 things began to change. Famous Santos — then in its heyday — represented Brazil for the first time.

Ten clubs participated, including two from Uruguay because it had now been decided that apart from the cup holders (Peñarol), a second club from the same country could enter (Nacional). One of the rules of the competition is however that clubs from the same country have to eliminate each other before the final so that the final can not be a one-country affair.

The competition was also played in groups (of three teams each) for the first time with Santos (Brazil), Nacional (Uruguay) and Universidad Catolica (Chile) winning them to advance to the semi-finals, together with Peñarol who, as holders, had a bye to this stage.

According to the above mentioned rule, Peñarol and Nacional had to clash in one semi-final and thus we had the expected final between Peñarol and Santos, the two most powerful clubs on the continent at the time. This clash also brought the first serious incidents and the tournament finally hit the headlines in the way it was going to continue to do so frequently.

Santos won the first leg of that memorable final 2-1 in Montevideo, Coutinho scoring both goals for Santos although his constant partner, Pele, was not playing, while Spencer netted Peñarol's goal.

The second leg, in Santos, is still the longest game on record in the competition, lasting three-and-a-half hours from the first to the final whistle. Peñarol were leading 3-2 shortly after half-time — Spencer and Sasia (2) getting Peñarol's goals while Dorval and Mengalvio replied for Santos — when the Chilean referee, Carlos Robles, was hit on the head and knocked unconscious by a stone hurled by a spectator. When he was able to get up he suspended the game.

After lengthy arguments and pressure from officials — lasting 80 minutes — the match was continued. Santos equalised at the very moment a linesman, waving his flag for off-side, was hit by a bottle and Robles again suspended the game. It was eventually finished however with no further goals and the score of 3-3 going on the match form, but later, in front of the Confederation's disciplinary committee, Robles alleged that he suspended the game officially when Peñarol was leading 3-2 and only continued it under pressure from officials, for his own safety and to stop all hell breaking lose. Thus by a strange case of South American "politics", and probably bearing financial considerations in mind, the score was left at 3-2 and a play-off was ordered.

This was played at River Plate's stadium in Buenos Aires and Pele made his first final appearance for Santos scoring two goals and Santos won easily by 3-0. A total of 117,000 spectators had watched the three final matches — 50,000 in Montevideo, 30,000 in Santos and 37,000 at the play-off in Buenos Aires. Officials of other clubs sat up and took notice of the financial possibilities.

The competition had really arrived!

● The idea of a competition for South American club champions was first talked about by the South American Football Confederation in 1958 and finally instituted in 1960.

1960

First round: San Lorenzo (Argentina) — E.C. Bahia (Brazil) 3-0 2-3 (5-3 aggregate); Peñarol (Uruguay) — Jorge Wilsterman (Bolivia) 7-1 1-1 (8-2); Millonarios Bogota (Colombia) — Universidad de Chile 6-0 1-0 (7-0). **Semi-finals:** Peñarol-San Lorenzo 1-1 0-0 2-1 (3-2); Olimpia-Millonarios 0-0 5-1 (5-1).

Finals: PEÑAROL won on 2-1 aggregate

(1st leg in Montevideo)

PEÑAROL 1 (Spencer) **OLIMPIA 0**

Peñarol — Maidana, W. Martinez (Majewski), Salvador, Pulo, Goncalves, Aguerre, Cubilla, Linazza, Spencer, Cresciolo, Borges.

Olimpia — Arias, Arévalo, V. Lezcano, Rojas, C. Lezcano, Osorio, Rodriguez, Recalde, Roldán, Cabral, Melgarejo. Referee — Carlos Robles (Chile).

2nd leg in Asuncion

OLIMPIA 1 (Recalde) **PENAROL 1** (Cubilla)

Olimpia — Arias, Arévalo, Peralta, Echague, C. Lezcano, Rojas, Rodriguez, Recalde, Roldán, Cabral, Osorio.

Peñarol — Maidana, Pulo, Martinez, Aguerre, Salvador, Goncalves, Cubilla, Linazza, Spencer, Cresciolo, Borges. Referee — José Praddaude (Argentina). Att: 35,000.

1961

First round: Independiente Santa Fe (Colombia)-Barcelona (Ecuador) 2-2 3-0 (5-2). **Quarter-finals:** Olimpia (Paraguay)-Colo Colo (Chile) 5-2 1-2 (6-4); Peñarol (Uruguay)-Universitario de Lima (Peru) 5-0 0-2 (5-2); Independiente Santa Fe (Colombia)-Jorge Wilsterman (Bolivia) 1-3 2-0 (3-3 — Ind. Santa Fe won toss of coin); Palmeiras (Brazil)-Independiente (Argentina) 3-0 1-0 (3-0). **Semi-finals:** Peñarol-Olimpia 3-1 2-1 (5-2); Palmeiras-Ind. Santa Fe 2-2 4-1 (6-3).

Finals: PEÑAROL won 2-1 on aggregate.

1st leg in Montevideo

PEÑAROL 1 (Spencer) **PALMEIRAS 0**

Peñarol — Maidana, W. Martinez, Cano, Gonzalez, Matosas, Aguerre, Cubilla, Ledesma, Spencer, Sasia, Joya.

Palmeiras — Waldir, Waldemar, Aldemar, Djalma Santos, Zequinha, Geraldo I, Julinho, Humberto, Geraldo II, Chinezinho, Romeiro. Referee — José Praddaude (Argentina). Att: 50,000.

2nd leg in Sao Paulo

PALMEIRAS 1 (Nardo) **PENAROL 1** (Sasia)

Palmeiras — Waldir, Djalma Santos, Waldemar, Geraldo I, Zequinha, Aldemar, Julinho, Romeiro (Nardo), Geraldo II, Chinezinho, Gildo.

Peñarol — Maidana, Gonzalez, W. Martinez, Aguerre, Matosas, Cano, Cubilla, Ledesma, Sasia, Spencer, Joya. Referee — José Praddaude (Argentina). Att: 40,000.

1962

First round — Group 1: Santos (Brazil)-Municipal (Bolivia) 4-3 6-1; Cerro Porteño (Paraguay)-Santos 1-1 1-9; Municipal-C. Porteño 2-3, 1-2 (Standings: Santos 7 pts, Cerro Porteño 5, Municipal 0). **Group 2:** Racing Club (Argentina)-Sporting Cristal (Peru) 2-1 1-2; Racing-Nacional (Uruguay) 2-3 2-2; Sporting Cristal-Nacional 2-3 0-1. (Standings: Nacional 7 pts, Racing 3, Sporting Cristal 2). **Group 3:** Universidad Catolica (Chile)-Millonarios (Colombia) 4-1 1-1; Emelec (Ecuador)-Universidad Catolica 0-3 7-2; Millonarios-Emelec 3-1 2-4. (Standings: Universidad Catolica 5 pts, Emelec 4, Millonarios 3). **Semi-finals:** Peñarol-Nacional (Urug) 1-2 3-1 (tied on points — play-off 1-1; Peñarol won on better goals aggregate 5-4); Santos-Univ. Catolica 1-1 1-0.

Finals: SANTOS won after third match play-off.

1st leg in Montevideo

PENAROL 1 (Spencer) **SANTOS 2** (Coutinho 2)

Peñarol — Maidana, Gonzalez, Lezcano, Caetano, Matosas, Cano, Rocha, Sasia, Carranza (Moacir), Spencer, Joya.

Santos — Gilmar, Lima, Mauro, Dalmo, Zito, Calvet, Dorval, Mengalvio, Pagao, Coutinho, Pepe (Devaldo). Referee — Carlos Robles (Chile). Att: 50,000.

2nd leg in Santos

SANTOS 2 (Dorval, Mengalvio) **PENAROL 3** (Spencer, Sasia 2)

Santos — Gilmar, Lima, Mauro, Dalmo, Zito, Calvet, Dorval, Mengalvio, Pagao, Coutinho, Pepe.

Peñarol — Maidana, Gonzalez, Lezcano, Cano, Matosas, Caetano, Rojas, Sasia, Cabrera, Spencer, Joya. Referee — Carlos Robles (Chile). Att: 30,000.

Play-off in Buenos Aires

SANTOS 3 (Caetano og, Pele 2) **PENAROL 0**

Santos — Gilmar, Mauro, Dalmo, Lima, Zito, Calvet, Dorval, Mengalvio, Coutinho, Pele, Pepe.

Peñarol — Maidana, Lezcano, Cano, Gonzalez, Goncalves, Caetano, Rocha, Spencer, Sasia, Matosas, Joya. Referee — Leo Horn (Holland). Att: 38,540.

Moscow Dynamo . . . struggling at home, but still a famous name abroad. Back: Gontar, Adzheov, Nikulin, Matyunin, Novikov, Golonya. Front: Tolstikh, Gazzayev, Minayev, Makhovikov, Bubnov.

DAVID KIPIANI, the former Dynamo Tbilisi schemer who announced his premature retirement last year, did NOT quit the game because of injury, as was reported at the time.

Instead he walked out in anger at being dropped by national manager Konstantin Beskov.

An article in a Soviet paper claims now that Kipiani had fully recovered from the leg fracture suffered in the Bernabeu tournament in Madrid in the summer of 1981 and that he fully expected to return to Spain for the World Cup finals.

This was to be the grand climax of his career . . . until Kipiani realised that Beskov was refusing to use him in the warm-up friendlies.

Kipiani immediately announced his retirement in anger at the snub.

The hard-hitting article containing this revelation appeared in the weekly Literaturnaya Gazeta. It has some other, startling comments on Soviet soccer, suggesting that:

- *Several Soviet supreme league matches at the end of last season were fixed (deciding the championship in favour of Minsk);*
- *Referees are bribed;*
- *It's time some sort of open, legalised professionalism were introduced.*

The paper says that Kipiani decided to quit the football scene "at the height of the season, when his talent was at its zenith and he was in perfect shape." It goes on: "Brazilian manager Tele Santana flew across the Atlantic to have a look at Falcao in the Italian league and persuade him to join the national team. Yet none of the many coaches and leaders of the Soviet team deemed it necessary to have a talk with Kipiani.

"So the footballer named the world's fourth best player by foreign experts on the eve of the finals found himself out of the game. Many a time, gazing at the television did we remember Kipiani! This was to be his World Cup.

"Later on, explaining his absence, officials referred to his broken leg. But then it is not clear why Buryak, who had just had a plaster removed, was taken along, why the post-accident Khidiatullin was not left behind.

"Kipiani's case highlights the problem of personality in football. Without stars there is no football. A player capable of taking on an opponent, of making unconventional, independent decisions on the field, is awkward to deal with . . . even by his own manager sometimes.

"Who was in charge at the time of Streltsov, Bobrov, Yashin? We do not remember. But we do remember the players' names . . .

"We have about as many registered footballers as Italy has male population. Yet it was Italy who won the World Cup, not us. Why? Because we simplistically apply the law that quantity can change into quality.

"Millions should run, jump and play football to enjoy themselves and to keep fit. But to produce high-class, elite athletes one needs special conditions. There is a need for a steady programme aimed at raising our football standards, a programme which will give the player and the club a legal status.

"It would be wrong to dismiss this as unimportant: tens of millions of fans spend a certain part of their lives — at the stadium and in front of TV — enthralled by the game. Their health, disposition and working capacity depend, even though to a tiny degree, on the players' performance and the results of the game. Favourite athletes play a significent role in the fans' life and education.

"Swarms of teenage fanatics who idolise their team have been born before our eyes, but these kids do not care so much about the level of performance (it's very much the same anyway) as about the result — who will win! They are convinced that one can shout the opposition down and win in this way, that to be strong outside the match is as important — or maybe even more important — than in the game.

"They have been brought up, as an audience, on frequent examples of incorrect fixture lists, unprincipled transfer deals, vague criteria in assessing the players, biased refereeing.

Penalty award

"I talked to one popular player who gave me the name of a referee who had pleaded with him during a match: 'Fall down in the penalty area!' And I talked to another no less popular one who told me about a referee who had changed his mind about a penalty award because he remembered just in time a severe reprimand by a high-up sports boss concerning too many penalties being awarded in the home team's penalty area.

"It seems that players, managers, referees and authorities every now and then turn football into a game against the spectators. Sometimes you watch a match and catch yourself thinking: if someone already knows the result, why not tell us straight away?

"There have been mysteries. Who could have forecast the results of the last two matches in last season's championship? Minsk, playing for the first time on artificial turf, their opponents' regular training field, smashed Moscow Dynamo 7-0.

"And then Kiev had to wait for the outcome of the Spartak v Minsk match, having finished their own an hour earlier in Yerevan and winning 3-2. If Spartak had won Kiev would have been champions. But Spartak lost 4-3 on their own pitch so Minsk had the victory they needed to pip Kiev by one point . . .

"Many experts believe that a revival of clubs depends on their financial independence. Simply, football clubs should have their own accounts to which receipts revenue would be transferred. (At the moment, all the top football clubs are merely branches of vast nationwide sports societies, most of them sponsored by trade unions. — T.B.) The club management should, in strict accordance with our law and under the supervision of official financial bodies, allocate this money to meet the club's needs.

TERRY BUSHELL previews the new Soviet season . . . and reports on some startling revelations

KIPIANI WALKED OUT ON DYNAMO TBILISI

"The club should draw up contracts with managers and players in which conditions should be set for the club's duty to the player when his sports career comes to an end.

"A footballer's life in sport is short — 10 to 12 years. The player must be sure that after the end of this span he will enjoy the rights of a person who had plied an honest trade. Some think more about their bank accounts than about improving as a player.

"Football administrators aware of this have learnt to use illegal inducements, such as the opportunity to change cars as often as one wants, flats, trips abroad, etc. But all this merely inhibits the player rather than inspires him to a better performance.

"Football is at the threshold of a new season. Whatever the path chosen it must be honest and open. Enough of playing around. Let's play football." Probably a switch to open professionalism would benefit all concerned. At the moment top Soviet players, as "privileged amateurs," have all the perks of professionals with none of the responsibilities.

The season began, as usual, with all Cup rounds up to the Final being played over a space of several days in the temperate south or indoors in Moscow. It was the most interesting Soviet Cup competition for many years, with none of the top clubs surviving and two of them being knocked out by second division sides.

Great team

Tbilisi, a shadow of the great team of only two years ago, went out 1-0 to Rotor in Volgograd, the goal coming from Andrei Reznik in the 76th minute. Chivadze, Sulakvelidze and Shengelia were the only stars left, following the death in a car crash of Vitaly Daraselia and the premature retirement of Kipiani.

League champions Minsk fell 3-2 at the first hurdle to SKA in Rostov-on-Don, two of the home side's goals coming from former centre-forward of the national side Sergei Andreyev. He could have had a hat-trick but missed a penalty.

Then Spartak crashed out at home to Shakhtyor Donetsk, 3-2 after extra time, the winning goal coming from Morozov in the 98th minute.

And them, perhaps most surprising of all, Kiev were knocked out 3-1 by Zenit indoors in Leningrad after having been given a bye to the quarter-finals to enable them to prepare for their European Cup tie with Hamburg. Klimentyev gave Zenit a good start with a goal in the fourth minute, then added another 23 minutes later. Yevtushenko pulled one back seven minutes from the end but Kazachenok had the last say with a goal in the last minute.

Both semi-finals went to extra time, with Shakhtyor v Zenit being decided by penalties, after normal play had ended all square at 1-1. Shakhtyor won the shoot-out.

They will meet Metallist Kharkov in the Final on May 9 who were only promoted to the Supreme League last season. Metallist beat in their semi-final the Central Army Sports Club in Moscow 1-0, the goal coming from Kouolapov ten minutes into extra time. This victory beats their achievement of two years ago, when they also reached the semi-finals, only to lose to Spartak. It will be Metallist's first appearance in the Cup Final, while Shakhtyor have reached that stage four times before.

For Kiev, it has been a disastrous start to the season, for, apart from crashing out of the domestic Cup when they were required to win only two matches to be in the Final, they also were swamped in the home leg of their European Cup quarter-final with Hamburg, going down 3-0 to a hat-trick from Danish International Lars Bastrup. (This match was played in Tbilisi, as Kiev was still too cold and icy for football). A 2-1 victory in the second leg in Hamburg was not enough to see them through, all the goals coming in the second-half, too late for them to capitalise on.

So, the spell of optimism that accompanied Tbilisi taking Europe by storm, Spartak thrashing Arsenal at Highbury and the national team reaching the World Cup finals for the first time for 12 years, is over. The new season opens under a cloud of apprehension.

Year	Champions	Cup-winners	Top scorer
1946	TSKA Moscow	Moscow Spartak	Ponomarev (Torpedo) 19
1947	TSKA	Spartak	Bobrov, Nikolaev 14 (both TSKA)
1948	TSKA	TSKA	Soloveiv (Dynamo M) 25
1949	Dynamo Moscow	Torpedo	Simonian (Spartak) 26
1950	TSKA	Spartak	Simonian (Spartak) 34
1951	TSKA	TSKA	Gogoberidze (Tbilisi) 16
1952	Spartak	Torpedo	(Zazroeyev (Kiev) 11
1953	Spartak	Dynamo Moscow	Simonian, Gogoberidze 14
1954	Dynamo Moscow	Dynamo Kiev	A. Iljin (Spartak), V. Iljin (Dynamo M.) and Sochnev (TR Leningrad) 11
1955	Dynamo Moscow	TSKA	Paraschin (Spartak) 13
1956	Spartak	—	Buzunov (Sverdlovsk) 17
1957	Dynamo Moscow	Lokomotiv Moscow	Buzunov (TSKA) 16
1958	Spartak	Spartak	A. Iljin 19
1959	Dynamo Moscow	—	Kaloev (Tbilisi) 16
1960	Torpedo	Torpedo	Kaloev 20
1961	Dynamo Kiev	Shakhtor Donetsk	Gusarov (Torpedo) 22
1962	Spartak	Shakhtor	Sevidov (Spartak) and Markarov (Nefchi) 16
1963	Dynamo Moscow	Spartak	Kopaev (ASK Rostov) 27
1964	Tbilisi	Kiev Dynamo	Fedotov (TSKA) 16
1965	Torpedo	Spartak	Kopaev 16
1966	Kiev	Kiev	Datunashvili (Tbilisi) 20
1967	Kiev	Kiev	Mustigin (Minsk) 19
1968	Kiev	Torpedo	Gavasheli (Tbilisi), Froskurin (ASK) and Herhadze (Kutaisi) 22
1969	Spartak	Karpaty Lvov	Osianin (Spartak) 16
1970	TSKA	Dynamo Moscow	Nodia (Tbilisi) 17
1971	Kiev	Spartak	Maloteyev (Minsk) 15
1972	Zarya Voroshilovgrad	Torpedo	Bilkhin (Kiev) 14
1973	Ararat Erevan	Ararat	Blokhin 18
1974	Kiev	Kiev	Blokhin 20
1975	Kievararat	Blokhin 18	
1976	Dynamo Moscow (spring)	Tbilisi	Andreasian (Ararat) 8
	Torpedo (autumn)		Markin (Zenit) 13
1977	Kiev	Dynamo Moscow	Blokhin 17
1978	Tbilisi Dynamo	Kiev	Yartsev (Spartak) 19
1979	Spartak	Dynamo Moscow	Starukhin (Shakhtor) 26
1980	Kiev	Shakhtor	Andreyev (ASK Rostov) 20
1981	Kiev	ASK Rostov	Shengelia (Tbilisi) 23
1982	Dynamo Minsk	Kiev	Yakubik (Pakhtakor) 22

League wins: Dynamos Moscow 11, Dynamo Kiev 10, Spartak Moscow 10, TSKA Moscow 8, Torpedo Moscow 3, Dynamo Tbilisi 2, Dynamo Minsk 1, Zarya Voroshilovgrad 1, Ararat Erevan 1.

Cup wins: Spartak Moscow 9, Dynamo Kiev 8, Torpedo Moscow 5, Dynamo Moscow 5, TSKA Moscow 4, Shakhtor Donetsk 3, Lokomotiv Moscow 2, Dynamo Tbilisi 2, Ararat Erevan 2, Karpaty Lvov 1, ASK Rostov 1, Zenit Leningrad 1.

World Soccer Diary compiled by Keir Radnedge

Olympic showdown under way

FOOTBALL'S showdown with the Olympic movement is well and truly under way. That was clear from the IOC's New Delhi meeting when every sport's eligibility rules were approved . . . except for ice hockey and soccer.

West Germany Willi Daume, chairman of the IOC's eligibility commission, says that whatever may have been agreed about trust funds for track and field athletes, the Olympics remain closed to any sportsman who has ever been registered as a professional.

Nobody may compete if he has received financial or material benefit from his sport, except with the knowledge of his sports federation.

It all sounds crazy when you know the amounts of money being thrown around in big-league athletics.

Nevertheless while Spain, France, Italy and West Germany — among others — insist on lining up first division players in their Olympic teams, trouble is guaranteed.

Daume says: "The qualifying rounds of the football tournament involve professional players because arrangements were left entirely to the world federation, FIFA. We have had no time for a meeting with them and the qualifying tournament had to get started.

"I know professionals have played but this is contrary to our rules. Possibly teams will have to drop their professionals and switch to all-amateur teams and players when they reach the final stages in Los Angeles. But we still have to negotiate."

Eight years ago Spain qualified for the Montreal Games with a team comprising young First division players. But when they were about to confirm participation they got cold feet and withdrew. Yet, in those same Games, France did well with a team including the youthful Michel Platini.

Which players are the cause of the problem now? Take a look at these Olympic squads:

Spain: Buyo (Sevilla), Agustin (Real Madrid); Alvarez, Nimo, Serna (Sevilla), Juan Jose (Real Madrid), Julio Alberto (Barcelona); Francisco (Sevilla), De Andres (Bilbao), Victor (Barcelona), Roberto (Valencia), Senor (Zaragoza); Sarabia (Bilbao), Carrasco, Marcos (Barcelona), Rincon (Betis).

Italy: Galli (Fiorentina), Tancredi (Roma); F. Baresi (Milan), Contratto (Fiorentina), Ferrario (Napoli), Nela (Roma), Tassotti (Milan), Tricella (Verona), Vierchowod (Roma); Bagni (Inter), Marchetti (Cagliari), Sabato (Inter), Sacchetti (Verona); Chierico, Iorio (Roma), Fanna (Verona), Massaro (Fiorentina).

W. Germany: Franke (Braunschweig), Reichel (Kaiserslautern); Huber (Dortmund), Hupe (Bielefeld), Bast (Bochum), Wehmeyer (Hamburg), Geils (Bielefeld); Hartwig (Hamburg), Mohr (Hertha), Groh (Hamburg), Bockenfeld (Fortuna D'dorf), Patzke (Bochum), De-l'Haye (Bayern), Schatzschneider (Fortuna Köln), Dressel, Heck (Nurnberg).

France: Desrousseaux (Tours), Rust (Sochaux); Ayache (Nantes), Jeannol (Nancy), Pilorget (Paris SG), Senac (Lens), Thouvenel (Bordeaux); Bijotat (Monaco), Lemoult (Paris SG), Rubio (Nancy), Toure (Nantes), Zanon (Saint-Etienne); Brisson (Lens), Bureau (Brest), Roussey (Saint-Etienne), Xuereb (Lens).

Plenty of full internationals there, plenty of first division stars. But, by comparison, no different to the 'state amateur' squads being prepared by Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania, the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia and the rest of the Eastern bloc.

And no difference either — and surely this is the most significant part — in the way they earn their living (whoever officially foots the bill), and in the way they regard their football.

To call the Los Angeles Games football tournament a 'Mickey Mouse competition' is to insult Disneyland!

* * *

WHEN Liverpool skipper Graeme Souness sent manager Bob Paisley up to collect the Milk Cup after the Wembley defeat of Manchester United, he was saying much more about the current state of the game than expressing merely his team's admiration for their manager.

Bob Paisley has guided his club to more trophies than any other boss in the history of the English game, since he succeeded Bill Shankly.

But in becoming the first manager to walk those steps up to the official presentation, he emphasised one unfortunate by-product of the game's development: the manager is now more important than the players.

The complaint was once that when a team did well the players got all the praise and when they did badly, the manager got the sack. Today, it seems, the manager dominates both in victory and defeat.

But surely youngsters identify far more readily with star players than with star managers . . . even if their record is as good as Bob Paisley's?

And while on the subject of the fans and players of tomorrow, English football's next generation, what strange talk has followed the £8 million bid from Telejector to screen matches in pubs and clubs next season.

Steve Coppell, chairman of the players' union, suggested that the failure to agree a new deal with television could be disastrous because then children would see little of the game in their homes.

Did Stanley Matthews, Tom Finney and all the rest ever watch football on television in their formative years? Certainly not. They didn't have the chance.

* * *

WHEN the story broke that Brazil's World Cup skipper Socrates might soon be playing alongside Kevin Keegan at Newcastle, the north-east went into excited convulsions.

All except Newcastle University, where Socrates — a qualified doctor — was said to be about to complete his medical training.

The university denied any knowledge of a Mr. Socrates arriving. No one registering in that name at all. Maybe they should have tried the entire label: Socrates's full name is Socrates Brasileiro Sampaio de Sousa Ferreira Oliveira!

Not surprising that some enterprising journalist should try to make copy out of the visit to Britain of the president of Socrates's Brazilian club. But the president of Corinthians of Sao Paulo made the trip to honour the centenary of the original Corinthians. Nothing more.

* * *

PETAR BAROTA joined Chelsea in the first wave of enthusiasm for Yugoslav imports. He came from Partizan Belgrade and was, for a while, the darling of the Chelsea fans.

Until, that is, he began to make mistakes. Until his clowning activities became too much not only for the fans but for his team-mates.

Borota couldn't go home to Yugoslavia, in the way planned by Raddy Avramovic of Notts County who intends to return to complete his legal studies. By ignoring Yugoslav national service papers, Borota had placed himself in considerable jeopardy.

Eventually he moved to Portuguese club, Portimonense, ousted at Chelsea partly by the potential of young Steve Francis, partly by a total failure to see eye-to-eye with manager John Neal.

Yet even at Portimonense he's having trouble, with first-team openings restricted by the presence of Victor Damas — a sort of Portuguese Dino Zoff.

Borota says: "If I can't get a regular first-team game, then I'm going. I'd never have come here if I had known about Damas. Why wasn't I told?"

World Soccer Diary compiled by Keir Radnedge

Victor of Barcelona holds off a challenge from Aston Villa's Andy Blair, in the Supercup . . . Victor's new target is the Olympic finals in Los Angeles.

THE Milan daily sports paper, *Gazzetta dello Sport*, was the one who gave most prominence to Trevor Francis's criticism — in his recent book — of Claudio Gentile.

That prominence was not altogether to the liking of Francis, though the publicity the book received in England and Italy can't have harmed sales.

The controversy reared its head when England got together to prepare for the Wembley tie with Greece. Newspaper reporters were surprised when Francis, generally affable, walked straight past them.

It transpired later that Francis was not too happy to see among the reporters the *Gazzetta* man who had first run the story of the book and its contents.

* * *

TITA of Gremio and Baltazar of Flamengo are the best of friends. They must be, because while they spend a year on loan exchange, playing for each other's club, they have agreed to swap apartments.

Each man had one concern. Their wives love playing the piano. Would Tita's (or Baltazar's) apartment prove suitable? The happy answer: both homes already have pianos.

Now Tita and Baltazar can, perhaps, concentrate less on moving house and more on their football.

* * *

GUIMARAES sweeper or midfielder Oito made a name for himself overnight when, following the mass withdrawal by Benfica players, he not only lined-up against West Germany but scored the only goal of the game.

The irony is that Oito is now on top of the Benfica shopping list!

DID YOU know that one of the few countries who won't be seeing the 1982 World Cup film, G'Ole, will be Italy?

The distributors have been unable to find a firm willing to pay up for the rights in the country whose team actually won the thing!

Did you know (a second time) the neat nickname which FC Zurich players quickly adopted for their demanding coach, Daniel Jeandupeux? Not surprisingly, this emerged only after his recent mid-season sacking. But to his players (behind his back) Jeandupeux was Jeanwantplus (Jean-wants-more).

* * *

MAY DIARY — **May 4** — UEFA Cup final, 1st leg. Olympic qual: Denmark v E. Germany, Finland v Poland . . . **May 11** — Cup-winners' Cup final (Gothenburg). E21: Albania v Turkey . . . **May 12** — EC: Albania v Turkey. E21: Sweden v Luxembourg . . . **May 13** — E21: Switzerland v E. Germany . . . **May 14** — EC: Switzerland v E. Germany. E21: Hungary v Greece, Rumania v Czechoslovakia . . . **May 15** — EC: Hungary v Greece, Sweden v Cyprus, Rumania v Czechoslovakia, Malta v Spain . . . **May 18** — UEFA Cup final, 2nd leg. Olympic qual: Finland v E. Germany, Bulgaria v S. Union, Denmark v Norway (or May 19) . . . **May 21** — FA Cup Final. E21: Poland v S. Union . . . **May 22** — EC: Poland v S. Union. European youth final (White Hart Lane, London) . . . **May 25** — Champions' Cup final (Athens). Olympic qual: Poland v Finland . . . **May 26** — EC: Sweden v Italy. Olympic qual: S. Union v Greece . . . **May 29** — EC: Iceland v Spain. E21: Iceland v Spain . . . **May 31** — Friendly: Belgium v France (in Luxembourg). Paul Breitner testimonial: Bayern v Juventus Roma XI. E21: Finland v S. Union, Denmark v Hungary.

ALLAN SIMONSEN has gone home to his original club, Vejle, leaving behind him in England a Charlton club who may be financially stricken for a long time because of their gamble on the little Dane.

When Charlton signed Simonsen from Barcelona plenty of rivals sneered. In fact he was still a superb player. Hadn't he been outstanding in inspiring Barcelona to win the Cup-winners' Cup last season?

Simonsen's magic had, against Tottenham in the semi-finals and against Standard Liege in the final, been the saving grace for a team bent on kicking the daylights out of opponents. Without Simonsen to remind his colleagues of what football is really all about, they crashed in the most shameful way at Villa Park in the Supercup.

During his short spell at the Valley, Simonsen not only proved his ability, he proved that he was still too good to languish out of sight in the league's lower reaches.

* * *

CARLOS SALVADOR Bilardo, new manager of Argentina, is being led away from the straight and narrow already, it seems.

Soon after his appointment Bilardo left Buenos Aires for Italy and Spain to consult Argentine football exiles such as Maradona, Passarella, Bertoni and Co about the national team and their commitment to the cause.

In Spain Bilardo finished up at Real Madrid, where he had discussions with both West German midfielder Uli Stielike, and the Madrid coach Alfred Di Stefano, also, of course, an Argentine.

Now Di Stefano was never known for his sense of mischief as a player. Perhaps management has changed him.

Anyway, with time after training being short, he insisted on an evening meeting with Bilardo and took him to see the Madrid stage production of Evita . . . which is, of course, banned in Argentina!

* * *

I LIKED the story of the game in Mexico between Puebla and America which had to be stopped four times.

Once because the Puebla goalkeeper was hit by a stone; on the other three occasions because the fans' band in the crowd was drowning out the referee's whistle!

* * *

OBITUARY. — **Jimmy Bloomfield.** Died, after a long illness, aged 49. Bloomfield began as an inside-forward with Hayes in the Athenian League, being signed for Brentford by Ron Greenwood in 1952. Two years later Greenwood was instrumental in Bloomfield's move to Arsenal, where he stayed for the bulk of his senior career. Bloomfield played twice for England under-23 and made more than 500 League and Cup appearances. He would surely have played many times at inside-left for England had he not been a direct contemporary of Johnny Haynes. Later Bloomfield played for Birmingham and Plymouth before becoming player-manager of Orient in 1968. Bloomfield was reputedly the highest paid manager in the game when he joined Leicester and spent six years there before returning to guide Orient to the semi-finals of the FA Cup in 1978. He leaves a wife and two sons.

Memory Lane

Pahlman had crowd-pulling charisma

FOOTBALL may not be the most talked-about sport in Finland, but ask any Finn who watched the game during the late 1950s or in the 1960s and he can describe at least one great goal scored by Kai Pahlman.

Although Pahlman hardly was Finland's most dedicated footballer, there has never been anyone like him in terms of pure artistry and charisma.

"The Sibelius of Finnish football" Pahlman was called and in Finland his number ten shirt became almost as famous as that of Pele. Pahlman scored a Finnish record of 190 goals in 288 first division games spread over 16 seasons.

Pahlman was born at Helsinki on July 8, 1935. A son of a well-known dance band musician, he took to football early and joined Helsingin Palloseura (HPS) in 1943. Pahlman quickly became a key player as HPS won promotion to the first division in 1955 and he also won the league championship title with them in 1957.

Pahlman's first cap for Finland came in May, 1955. He could not have dreamed of a tougher debut, for Finland's opponents that night were the great Hungary of Puskas and Kocsis. Finland were thrashed 1-9 and teenager Pahlman never saw the ball.

Pahlman won 56 full caps during his career, the last one coming in August, 1967 against the Soviet Union in Moscow. Although he scored 12 goals for Finland, somehow this tubby inside-forward didn't always show his best form in the national team.

The league's top scorer in 1958 and 1961, he led HPS to victory in the Finnish cup in 1962, but was sensationally thrown out of the team only a year later. Pahlman's team-mates claimed that he didn't show enough effort on the pitch. And, to make matters worse, he was also suspended from football for one year by the Finnish federation in 1964. The main reason was Pahlman's widely publicised statement in which he accused clubs of fixing league games.

Rejecting Pahlman turned out to be a big blunder by HPS as they were relegated during their first season without him. The player himself signed for the other leading club in Helsinki, Helsingin Jalkapalloklubi (HJK), and once again topped the scoring charts in 1965 with 22 goals in as many games.

It is strange that HJK never won the league title with Pahlman in their side, although they were runners-up in 1965 and 1966. Pahlman's stay meant, nevertheless, something of a golden era for the Helsinki club. Kai's goals and above all his sense of showmanship made HJK easily the most popular club in the country.

In Finland you have to produce something special to pull a crowd of 10,000 to a league game. But Pahlman did that numerous times while at HJK. For instance, a Finnish record crowd of 17,293 watched a league game between HJK and Valkeakosken Haka in 1965.

Pahlman was not especially quick but his speed of thought was in a different class to the other Finnish players of his era. An intelligent organiser, Pahlman had the ability to dictate the rhythm of play. He had an excellent technique on the ball, packed a terrific shot, especially from set pieces, and could also be ruthless and courageous in his finishing.

These qualities of Pahlman's game were often overlooked, for it was his "show" that used to make the headlines. You could never tell what Pahlman was going to do next. He could take the ball and then suddenly start marching with high steps like a soldier. Or then he could dribble past two defenders, put his foot on the ball and pat his chest with his fists like King Kong!

One of Pahlman's most celebrated tricks was scoring from a penalty with what he himself called "a penguin kick". Taking crazy short steps Pahlman swayed his upper body from side to side before blasting the ball past a confused goalkeeper.

The referee, however, missed the funny point and Pahlman was booked for unsporting conduct!

Pahlman left HJK in 1969 for a short Indian summer at Lahden Reipas, with whom he won his second league championship medal in 1970. He then retired in 1972 — after inspiring Reipas to victory in the cup — to start a coaching career at HJK.

He seemed an instant hit as a coach and HJK won the league in 1973. However, a disagreement with both the directors and the players led to Pahlman's quitting the game in 1974. He now devotes his time to the other great love of his life, music.

One truly great goal that Kai Pahlman scored was against Manchester United in the European Cup in 1965. Although United, with Charlton, Law and Best in their line-up, won 6-0 in Manchester, HJK had given them a difficult game in Helsinki, losing only 2-3 — and everybody raved about Pahlman's glorious goal in that match. He hit a swerving, dipping shot directly from a free-kick and Alex Stepney in United's goal saw the ball for the first time when it hit the net.

GREAT GAMES OF THE PAST

European Cup-winners Cup, 1965
West Ham 2 (0) (Sealey 70, 72)
TSV 1860 Munchen 0 (0)
Att: 90,000. **Ref:** Zsolt. **HT:** 0-0.
West Ham: Standen; Kirkup, Burkett; Peters, Brown, Moore; Sealey, Boyce, Dear, Hurst, Sissons.
1860: Radenkovic; Wagner, Reich, Luttrop, Kohlars; Bena, Grosser; Heiss, Küppers, Brunnenmeier, Rebele.

WEST HAM were not at full strength for this match with key man Johnny Byrne out with a knee injury but they won deservedly.

At the time it was a classic encounter for both sides kept the ball predominantly on the ground, and the Hammers produced a lot of one-touch football. Bobby Moore and Ronnie Boyce were the Hammer's stars with Geoff Hurst playing out of position in midfield and Brian Dear no substitute for Byrne.

The two goalkeepers are worth a mention too, for Standen in the West Ham goal consistently threw the ball out to feet while at the other end the giant Yugoslav Radenkovic repeatedly left his penalty area to kick away through passes that had cut open his defence.

This was only West Ham (Mark I) for they produced even higher quality football later, but compared with their contemporaries who were still hitting long balls in all directions, it was delightful stuff.

Both sides fielded two wingers; 1980 playing 4-2-4 and West Ham 4-3-3 but with the game flowing from end to end West Ham always had the edge and looked most likely to score.

Moore set Dear up as early as the fourth minute, but though he found the net it was rightly disallowed for off-side. Young John Sissons then shot wide with the goal at his mercy, and when he crossed from the left moments later, two West Ham players should have scored but didn't.

Keeping the ball on the grass and using the wings well, West Ham threw players forward and even centre back Ken Brown stormed up the right and like Sealey, pulled his cross back low, away from goal.

Four minutes into the second half, Martin Peters found Sissons with a delightful through pass in the centre but the winger's left-foot shot rebounded off a post.

Hurst now produced a thunderbolt of a shot which Radenkovic saved superbly and at the other end Jim Standen went down at the feet of Grosser, before saving well at close range with his feet.

After 70 minutes Boyce intercepted the ball, ran with it and then let go a superb pass for Alan Sealey to run on to and from ten yards he smashed the ball past the left hand of Radenkovic, high into the net, and West Ham were on their way.

Two minutes later the game was won and lost. A superbly worked free-kick out on the left had three Hammers set up to take it. Two ran over the ball; Moore followed up to chip a superb ball across the goalmouth and when Peters headed down he left Sealey with a simple tap-in job from close in with Radenkovic helpless.

BRAZILIAN NOTEBOOK

from Derick Allsop in Rio and Ricardo Weiss in Sao Paulo

ON the beaches of Copacabana and Ipanema little has changed and there, dear reader, is where you'll find solace.

To the world outside, Brazil is the very soul of this beautiful game called football, its artistry and passion unrivalled.

At the arenas of the World Cup the Brazilians have hypnotised us with their dazzling trickery. Their colourful, globe-trotting gallery would convince us the sport is essential to life itself.

Indeed, as we again discovered in the hour of defeat by Italy last summer, it can, for some, appear more important than life.

When Colombia finally and almost inevitably announced it would not be able to host the 1986 World Cup finals, Brazil brandished its credentials.

The fact that the Brazilians have now also pulled out of contention is the most forceful evidence yet that sport at the highest level has outgrown its roots.

Views

Before Brazil's official withdrawal a national poll was conducted to determine the views of the populace. Sixty per cent voted in favour of staging the World Cup, 40 per cent against.

Yet although the verdict was yes, those figures reflected a significant swing against the finals. For all the fanaticism and pride in this country, economics were providing the most powerful of arguments.

It had been estimated that 90 per cent of the stadia listed for the World Cup required improvements. In some cases, extensive improvements were needed.

Then on top, of course, would be the cost of updating communication systems, transport and the various allied services. All this in a land hurling itself towards an inflation rate of well over 100 per cent.

Chaos

The game itself hardly inspired confidence. Many clubs were in financial chaos. The Government decided they simply couldn't produce the necessary support and Brazil's campaign for the finals was over.

Many were doubtless disappointed, even resentful. But I have heard no threats of an uprising in protest and some the people of this massive country will pull through without that wonderful festival after all.

Look around Rio and you'll see the World Cup in fresh perspective. The magnificent, panoramic views of this city, the vibrant night clubs and the beach beauties cannot camouflage the squalor of the shanties or the menace of the muggers.

The haves flaunt it, the have nots beg and steal it. Life is a daily battle of wits, a weary struggle for survival. Try selling the World Cup to those folk.

The irony is that these are the very circumstances and conditions likely to guarantee the continued excellence and dominance of Brazilian footballers.

This simplest of games, this most obvious of escape routes still throws in the old streets and along the beaches. And how.

LEANDRO . . . Flamengo's World Cup right-back.

Where to find solace!

Goalposts are the first clue to the scale and organisation of the beach contests, the bare feet and absence of obvious uniforms confirmation of cherished impressions.

Throughout the day you'll witness mini sand matches, pockets of ball-juggling activity. But it's when the sun begins to bow (midday temperatures of more than 100 degrees F are not uncommon) that the real stuff emerges.

Direct

The football is fast, usually direct and immensely skilful. The use of the long, diagonal ball to a quick winger, and subsequent cross and header has the ring of traditional British style.

On the ball, however, the youngsters are quite unmistakably Latin. The control on soft, shifting sand is staggering. It is, above all, the speed of control, movement and distribution which takes the eye — and the breath.

No loitering with the ball here, no retreating behind massed defences. The emphasis is on attack and counter-attack, but with great accuracy and economy.

Even at this level the shooting is exceptional. These fledgling players have an instinct and confidence to strike from almost any range and their efforts rarely spare the goalkeepers concern.

The action goes on long after the sun has finally sheltered behind the mountains and the street lights have flickered to life. All of them, it seems, are reluctant to return to reality.

The football on Copacabana and Ipanema is a delight and a relief. It is a reminder that youth can still experience the magic of the true game, the uncomplicated, uncommercialised game.

For these youngsters the World Cup is thousands of miles away and can stay there, thank you very much.

★ ★ ★

WHO is Carlos Alberto Parreira, Brazil's new boss? His career started with São Cristóvão, then he spent two years in Ghana, was responsible for the physical fitness of Vasco da Gama from 1968 to 1970, and then went to Fluminense where he stayed until 1975.

He is the third member of the Commission headed by Mario Zagalo which won the 1970 World Cup and finished fourth in 1974 to land the job. The late Cláudio Coutinho was the second one. His last seven years have been spent in Kuwait first helping Zagalo for two years, then coaching the national side to the finals of 1980 Olympic Games and 1982 World Cup. Nevertheless he didn't lose contact with Brazil where he stayed not only during his holidays, but often took Kuwait for training periods.

Gilmar, former Brazil goalkeeper with 96 caps, and a 1958 and 1962 world champion will be the new national squad supervisor. Gilmar played for Corinthians and with Santos from 1959 to 1969 winning the world club championship twice, the Brazil Cup five times, the state league championship eight times and the Rio-São Paulo tournament five times.

THE BRAZILIAN championship, now in its second phase has meant a crowd average of above 25,000 for only six clubs: Flamengo (43,996), Santos (37,479), Vasco (31,992), Corinthians (28,751), Cruzeiro (28,506) and Palmeiras (28,421).

There is hope that in the next season the competition will have fewer participants.

PAULO CESAR CARPEGGIANI, who had the most meteoric career, winning in his first season as coach the Rio state league, the Brazilian championship, the Libertadores and the World Cups, has left Flamengo for Saudi Arabia. Replacement, for the time being is another former midfielder, Carlinhos, though it is said that he is just keeping the place for Edu, Zico's older brother, now coaching America in Rio.

Pressure builds on Derwall

IT IS DOUBTFUL whether any other national team manager in Europe is at present going through a similar traumatic experience as West Germany's Jupp Derwall. Before the European Championship tie in Albania there appeared to be a concerted campaign in the so-called popular Press against him, culminating in the assertions that failure in Albania would cost Derwall his job.

Fortunately the much maligned manager found a powerful ally in Hermann Neuberger the president of the Football Federation (DFB) who stated categorically: "Here Derwall remains in his post at least till his contract expires in 1986. We are not in the habit of sacking managers". It is of course true that the Germans have never yet fired a national team manager. They only had four, going back to pre-war days: Prof. Otto Nerz, Sepp Herberger, Helmut Schön and now since 1978 Derwall.

The current team chief is certainly under fire from many quarters, but are the recent insipid performances really all his fault? Four players, Hrubesch, Magath, Breitner and Fischer declared after the World Cup that they no longer wished to be considered.

Eight men pulled out before the visit to Albania for various reasons. Hamburger SV claimed that Rolff, Milewski and Hieronymus were injured; Matthäus (Borussia Mönchengladbach) and Dremmler (Bayern Munich) gave the same reason, though it would have been hard to prove that these were all genuine cases.

The controversial Bernd Schuster at first seemed unhappy about going to Albania because his wife Gaby was expecting a baby in the week of the international. But it also transpired that Barcelona wanted him to play in a domestic cup-tie at Bilbao. Both Schuster and sweeper Stielike, who also missed the international, have a clause in their contract that they must be released for competitive internationals, but also, Barcelona and Real Madrid have blatantly ignored the UEFA ruling and now face fines of 100,000 Swiss Francs (£33,000) each.

Schuster incidentally has made his peace with the old-timer Paul Breitner. Schuster once claimed that he "will never play in the national team as long as Breitner is there". Now, he will even take part in his testimonial when the retiring Breitner's Bayern team will play a World XI in Munich's Olympic stadium on May 31.

The midfielder Felix Magath confirmed in the much publicised talk with Derwall that he will not be returning to the national side which he quit after the World Cup. Magath was disappointed at being left on the reserve bench in the final. Now he claims that the expectations of the public are too great and that he can't cope with the stress. He has 24 caps.

Earlier Derwall left out Manfred Kaltz (30) the six-times capped full-back and Magath's team-mate in Hamburg, who only missed two of the last 50 internationals. His omission may have had something to do with Hamburg's decision to pull out the other three players. There are suggestions that the big clubs are boycotting the national squad, but these have been refuted by the national team chief.

That the national team beat Albania without so many top players is a credit to the strength-in-depth of the West German squad. Their performance was not brilliant, rather workmanlike. Völler and Rummenigge (from a penalty) gave them a 2-0 lead which was cut by a controversial penalty for the hosts. The next encounters both away with Turkey and group leaders Austria may prove decisive.

Derwall's other good news was that Völler has turned down an approach from Italy's AC Torino who offered his club Werder Bremen £1 million for the striker. But Völler decided against a move and will extend his contract at Werder for a further two years.

Derwall's new assistant will be Horst Köppel (34) the former eleven-times capped midfielder who played for Borussia Mönchengladbach and VfB Stuttgart; he has been for the past year team manager of Arminia Bielefeld. Köppel signed a five-year contract with the DFB beginning on July 1. He takes over from the departed Dietrich Weise the responsibility for the B-junior team (up to 16 years) and will assist Derwall in succession to Erich Ribbeck and Holger Osieck.

The DFB will be prepared to take over the organisation of the World Cup in 1986, if any of the candidates were to drop out because they cannot meet FIFA's rather stringent demands. This was said by president Neuberger who as chairman of the World Cup Organising Committee wields a powerful influence. But I fear that the Germans, like the English, are wasting their time day-dreaming. Article of FIFA No. 39 states quite clearly that the World Cup must not be staged on the same continent twice in succession. And if it is held here, what will happen in 1990 when it is due in Europe? Will it be staged three times in succession on the same continent? Highly unlikely I would say.

Latest crowd figures confirm the enormous disparity between the top and bottom clubs in the Bundesliga. Only three clubs can boast average attendances of over 30,000 — Bayern Munich (37,268), Schalke (30,845) and Borussia Dortmund (30,820). Champions Hamburger SV lie sixth in this table with average gates of 23,281. Nine clubs report crowds below the 20,000 mark, in many cases less than they need to break even.

Hamburg's low figures are all the more surprising since they are favourites to retain the title, recently established an all-time Bundesliga record of playing 36 league matches without defeat and were also West Germany's sole remaining representatives in European competition.

At least the long awaited duel with Bayern Munich drew a capacity crowd of 61,348 who paid record receipts of £325,000. The match was played on the last Saturday in March, but all tickets were sold at Christmas. "We could have filled a 100,000-stadium quite easily", said Hamburg's treasurer Helmut Kallmann.

The 1-1 draw left the title race wide open, but it was a poor game, both sides afraid to losing didn't risk anything adventurous. A week later they met again for the so-called "Super Cup", this time in Munich where only 12,000 fans bothered to turn out. After another 1-1 draw, Bayern won the new trophy on penalties.

Hamburg's centre-forward Horst Hrubesch, who was 32 on April 17, capped 21 times, is definitely leaving the club at the end of the season; he will most likely join Standard Liege. Hamburg already have a ready-made replacement. The new scoring sensation Dieter Schatzschneider (24) who has been loaned by Hannover to Fortuna Cologne in the Second Division, but has signed for the champions for next term. Schatzschneider scored 34 goals in 38 Second Division games last season and has hit 26 at the time of writing.

Many experts see in him the next centre-forward of the national side and he impressed the national team manager when helping Fortuna to ko Borussia Mönchengladbach in the DFB-Cup with both goals in a 2-1 win. An even bigger sensation was Fortuna's 5-0 triumph in the semi-final over fancied Borussia Dortmund. Once again Schatzschneider's two goals helped his team to become only the fourth from the Second Division to reach the final. Before them this feat was accomplished by Alemannia Aachen (1965), VfL Bochum (1968) and Kickers Offenbach (1970). Only the last named have actually won the trophy.

Thus, for the first time ever there will be a final featuring two clubs from Cologne, 1.FC Köln and Fortuna. The final was scheduled for June 11 in Berlin, but both clubs are pressing for a venue much nearer to their city, to save their fans the long trek. Köln incidentally reached the final by beating VfB Stuttgart 3-2 a.e.t.

Hamburg are already rubbing their hands at the prospect of welcoming the lethal Schatzschneider into the ranks. The champions reported for the past financial year a record turnover of over £8 million and a modest profit of £25,000. This compares with the previous season's gain of £21,000. Takings from gate money, advertising, television fees and transfers brought in £4.5 million. Outgoings amounted to nearly £4 million. The club's president Dr Wolfgang Klein commented: "Regarding the costs of personnel, there has not been any appreciable increase in the last three years".

The income from Bundesliga matches came to nearly £2 million, or 45 per cent of the total. Then came receipts from UEFA-Cup games (Hamburg reached the finals of £800,000, plus £700,000 from various promotions. Hamburg owe about £2.2 million, but this is covered by their assets and securities.

Last summer the club spent only £204,000 on new players like Allan Hansen (ex-BK Odense), Wolfgang Rolff (Fortuna Cologne), Uwe Hain (Eintracht Brunswick), Michael Schmidt (Hertha Zehlendorf) and Dieter Brefort (SC Charlottenburg). Of those the biggest disappointment was the former Danish First Division top scorer Hansen (26). He was plagued by injury, notably that which led to an operation on his lungs which developed air bubbles.

The fifth team manager to be fired in the Bundesliga this season was Kaiserslautern's Rudi Kröner (41) who didn't even last a full term. The team was earlier unbeaten in 14 matches, but lost unluckily to Universitatea Craiova in the UEFA-Cup. Was it the "Trainer's" fault that they squandered a 3-0 lead during the first leg, winning only 3-2 and losing 0-1 to go out on away goals?

Certainly Kröner's temporary successor and former assistant Ernst Diehl will not be keen to take over permanently. Rumours are going around that if they can't get their former boss Dietrich Weise, Kaiserslautern will try to lure the Swede Sven-Göran Eriksson away from Benfica where he is trying to repeat the UEFA-Cup triumph he enjoyed with Gothenburg last year.

Jupp Derwall . . . man under pressure.

RIFT OVER EUROPEAN CUP FINAL

From Lou Economopoulos in Athens

THE RIFT between the governments Sports Ministry, headed by Kimon Koukouris, and the Greek soccer federation (EPO), has widened.

Koukouris has just announced that the State authorities will take over the organising of the European Cup Final in the Athens Olympic Stadium on May 25. Originally, the EPO had been responsible for the championships but Koukouris felt that nothing had been done to help make the event a success.

It should be noted that the Ministry was in charge of the European Athletic Championships which took place here last September with huge success.

Also, Koukouris gave EPO until April 15 to present to him a plan for the organisation of the three national teams.

"It is not possible for the State to remain unconcerned and impartial. The sports authorities must take all the necessary measures to safeguard our national pride," said Koukouris.

The Greek national team had something to be proud of recently with the scoreless draw in England.

Koukouris put heavy blame on EPO for the cancellation of the under-21's friendly in Rumania in February. That match was agreed upon for February 9 by both sides, but EPO did not submit the proper papers for Koukouris's signature until February 28, the day the team were due to leave.

Koukouris signed the papers immediately and sent them back to EPO. However, while the team were waiting to board the plane for Rumania, it was learned that they did not have enough foreign exchange to make the trip. Thus, the trip was cancelled.

With 11 matches left to play, Olympiakos continue to lead the first division with 35 points, two more than AEK. Aris are third with 29 points followed by PAOK (28), Larisa (27) and Giannena (24).

Olympiakos beat Ethnikos 3-1 in the Piraeus derby thanks to two goals from Nikos Anastopoulos, who leads the scoring charts with 21 goals.

"The month of April is without a doubt the most important for Olympiakos," said their manager Poland's Kazimir Gorski. "We have three matches away and only one at home. We also have the return match with Panathinaikos in the Greek Cup. But I believe if I have all my players available, after our injury problems we will succeed."

The Minister for Youth, Kostas Laboris, has announced that the government will give up to £400,000 this year towards the building of a stadium for Olympiakos in the Athens suburb of Rentis. The stadium would seat 35,000 spectators and would be used for most matches. During derbies, Olympiakos would be allowed to use the Olympic Stadium which seats 80,000 fans. The new stadium in Rentis will be ready late next year.

AEK, in their last outing, won 1-0 at Panionios with Tomas Mavros's 14th goal of the season.

Early in March, the AEK-Olympiakos derby brought in 40,000 spectators. The match ended 1-1. AEK earned £40,000 from the gate and immediately sent £7,000 to Köln, money owed from the UEFA cup match here last October.

Meanwhile, statistics from the first-half of the season show that 33,878 tickets fewer were sold this season compared with last in the First Division. An average 7,910 spectators attended a match in the first half of this season. Only in eight matches were there more than 20,000 tickets sold. In eight matches fewer than 1,500 tickets were purchased, topped by the lowest attendance at the Kastoria-Doxa match (1,097 spectators).

May 31 is the date set for the Paul Breitner Farewell in Munich as the long-serving Bayern and West Germany midfielder intends to carry through with his announced intention of retiring this summer. Already plans have been for the game, with the curtain-raiser being a youth game between Kolbermoor and ESV Freilassig, the clubs for whom Breitner played before joining Bayern more than a decade ago. Men who have said they will play in the all-stars' match to follow include Italy's Dino Zoff and Paolo Rossi and Argentina's Diego Maradona and Mario Kempes.

FK Austria stun Barcelona

"ONE OF THE BEST ever performances by one of our clubs in Europe" — that was the unanimous verdict of the media on FK Austria's triumph over the star-studded Barcelona.

Yet, the Viennese were badly handicapped by the longer than usual winter break; the championship was not due to be resumed till three days after the second leg in the Cup Winners Cup quarter-final. The only competitive match they played between the two legs was a cup game at Linz which they lost on penalties to go out of the competition.

The success over Barcelona earned FK Austria a lucrative tie against another Spanish giant Real Madrid. By the time these lines appear in print the results of that semi-final clash with the "Royals" will be known, but whatever the outcome nothing will detract from, or diminish the glory of that night in Barcelona. After the 0-0 at home no one gave the Austrians much chance, but they had a hero in striker Gerd Steinkogler, the 24-year-old who three years ago was dismissed as a "misfit" of the German Bundesliga. Steinkogler came from Grazer AK and was transferred to Werder Bremen for £200,000, but didn't make the grade.

He returned home and signed for FK Austria. Steinkogler scored on his international debut in a 3-1 win over Hungary but his failure in Germany upset him and he faded from the scene temporarily. In Barcelona he scored the psychologically vital opening goal and although the Spainiards came back strongly they could only equalise to leave the Austrians winners on away goals.

Even the great Maradona couldn't save them — the little Argentinian demolished the Austrian national side three years ago when he scored a hat-trick in his country's 5-1 win in Vienna, but this time he was well policed and didn't get a look in.

And speaking of the national side, the Austrians were eagerly following the fortunes of their European Championship rivals who were playing each other at the end of March. Austria head this group with three wins from as many matches and a goal tally of 11-0. Their match with West Germany in Vienna on April 27 could be decisive to the outcome in this section, in which Northern Ireland might tip the scales either way.

Switzerland's Roger Wehrli escapes Peter Weir in the European championship tie with Scotland at Hampden.

Switzerland let lead slip

SWITZERLAND'S national side nearly celebrated a night of glory when they led Scotland at Hampden Park by 2-0 with just 20 minutes to go. In the event the Swiss had to be content with a 2-2 draw which doesn't help either country since Belgium appear to be running away with this European Championship Group I.

Two goals by defenders André Egli and Heinz Hermann raised hopes of a first ever win on Scottish soil, but in the end honours were even. The Swiss prepared in the same way as before the home tie back in November. A full league programme on Wednesday, then two days in a training camp at Regensdorf, a match against the Under-21 side and home leave for the whole weekend. On Monday the two squads assembled again and flew together to Glasgow. The Swiss were able to field their strongest side, though their top striker Claudio Sulser was not 100 per cent fit after his lay-off.

The Swiss were promised a win bonus of £1,000 per man (£750 for a home win) and a bonus of £2,500 each if they qualify for the finals. The omens were not good for Wolfisberg and his charges. Their best defender Heinz Lüdi, who broke a hotel curfew during his club's FC Zurich's African tour and together with the other "offender" the international striker Hanspeter Zwicker was sent home, immediately declared he wanted a transfer.

Lüdi was even reported to be negotiating with Lausanne before his own club had heard of his decision. He was subsequently demoted to the reserves, but this caused a stir in the media who feared that the national team would be deprived of their most reliable defender on the eve of the vital match with Scotland.

When Lüdi was reinstated on the intervention of the club's president, the team manager and former international Daniel Jeandupeux felt his authority had been undermined.

Jeandupeux in fact quit over the point of principle and the team was taken over temporarily by his assistant Heini Glattli (49). The internal squabbles have upset Zurich who have no chance of winning the title, but are still engaged in a tight fight for one of the two UEFA-Cup places allocated to the Swiss. Zurich were lying third, but only three points ahead of Basel in tenth place!

Ten days before the Scotland game Grasshoppers, fielding seven men from the national squad, crashed sensationally by 5-1 to unfancied St. Gallen. It was the "Hoppers" first defeat since September 26 and cost them the leadership, taken over by Servette.

Hamrun Spartans – Malta champions

THIS is Hamrun Spartans, new champions of Malta – unassailable at the top of the table following Zurrieq's surprising 1-0 defeat against Rabat Ajax. Now Zurrieq must fight it out for a UEFA Cup qualifying place along with outgoing champions Hibernians, who did well to beat Floriana 1-0.

Without doubt Spartans deserve their title, a fitting success to mark their 75th anniversary – particularly since they hadn't won the league since 1947! Previous title wins were in 1914 and 1918.

As far as relegation is concerned, Rabat's victory over Zurrieq not only eased the Magpies' worries but left once-glorious Sliema Wanderers in serious trouble – three points adrift with three games to go.

DOMENICO AQUILINA

Peyroche tired of Paris

GEORGES PEYROCHE leaves Paris Saint Germain in June; and it has nothing directly to do with that disastrous evening at Waterschei which left the Parisians bitterly blaming the Welsh referee Clive Thomas, after Paris S-G had crashed out of the Cupwinners' Cup 3-0 following extra time.

by Andre Duclos

This despite having established a first-leg lead of 2-0 in Paris. Blame Thomas they might — it might also be remembered that he could well have given the Belgians a penalty which he didn't — but the truth of the matter is that Saint Germain collapsed and failed when the pressure was on, possibly as the result of over confidence.

Peyroche, always a stormy petrel, has done much for the club, but the truth is that he has had enough of Paris, that horribly difficult footballing city, which for several amazing years was without a professional, major league, club at all. It's said that Peyroche would have been on his way a year ago, had Paris S-G not won the cup, which tells you something about the conditions in which their managers are obliged to work. It is said that the talented Monaco manager, Banide, may take his place.

Good luck to him if he does. He will feel in retrospect that Monaco, with its tiny ground and tiny following, was indeed a holiday paradise by comparison with . . . Paris. Monaco, as usual, made a rotten start then "came good" late in the season, but managing to lose no fewer than three of their first seven matches put upon them a burden which was too heavy to bear in the League.

Peyroche and Paris S-G have not been helped by the unpredictable form of their two foreign stars, the big Dutchman Kist and the Yugoslav, Susic, who did not "come good" when it was so badly needed. But then neither did Ossie Ardiles, from whom so vastly much more had been expected.

It is somewhat ironic that just before the debacle in Belgium, Peyroche should be busily denying that Paris were a "great occasions" team; look at the League, he said, in which they were lying third at the time. Look at our record over the last few seasons.

Well, if any team failed on the great occasion, it was surely Paris S-G away to Waterschei. But Peyroche has been generous in defending his players; such as Salut Susic. He points out that the presence of Susic has given a lot more scope to Mounié; and that he never "does nothing for nothing". Certainly, he sometimes loses the ball, but that is something one has to learn to accept. Some people say he dribbles for his own pleasure. They are wrong. The dribble is a collective weapon, par excellence. When he takes out one or two opponents, he at one and the same time allows his team mates to free themselves, and since he has the best 'final pass' that I have ever seen . . ."

Paris will not find Peyroche easy to replace; even with someone like Banide. And whoever gets him will find they have an abrasive but highly effective manager. "I am a serious person," he says — and who would gainsay him? — "who adores his job." But he also frankly says, "One of the joys of football is the travelling. You cannot just plant yourself somewhere and say, I'm going to stay here for ten years. It's the profession which has it like that. I sometimes think of Ardiles or Surjak, who are extraordinary people. One day, they left us. In football, it is always the same."

Also on the move is that once elegant midfielder, at a late age, of the French international team, Jean-March Guillou. He does not intend to stay with Mulhouse. He wanted more of a free hand, though in many ways he was happy at Mulhouse. And he is heading south again, this former star of Nice, to rejoin Cannes.

Lyon have been shipping water seriously. The club which boasts the longest run in the French First Division is now in severe danger of losing its place. What has gone wrong? The answer might be implicit in the words of the recently appointed manager, none other than our old friend Robert Herbin from Saint-Etienne: "No, decidedly I never thought I'd find such conditions of work in a club like this." But his words only echoed those, years ago, of another manager brought up in the then more rigorous conditions of Saint Etienne, Aimé Jacquet, who spoke of Lyon as "a club running on air."

There are still those who feel that Lyon should have tried a great deal harder to keep a manager as good as Jacquet. Now Herbin comes in at the eleventh hour to attempt a task which could well be beyond any man; or any manager.

There can be little doubt that Lyon, who were benignly and enthusiastically administered for many years under the Presidency of Rochet, over-extended themselves in the early sixties when all sorts of things happened together; such as the start of freedom of contract, their victory in the Cup, the consequent entry into European competition, and exaggerated sums of money being granted to the stars. The local municipality took a more and more important role as the club's debts grew bigger and bigger; but the city of Lyon has not, on the whole, proved itself very sympathetic to Olympique Lyonnaise.

Since 1980 there has been a vast turnover of players. Serge Chiesa, that enormously talented little inside-forward who has remained loyal to the club for so many years, though he has long refused (for somewhat obscure reasons) to play for the French international team, remains. But otherwise, by comparison with the 1980-81 season, only three other players. The youth scheme, oddly enough, has produced quite a rich haul of talent; but almost all of it has gone on its way to other clubs.

In addition to that, such stars as Bernard Lacombe and Tigana have come and gone. There is reason to feel that Lyon has appeared something of a soft touch, a club which pays high wages but does not expect its team to do anything of major consequence. So the salaries are high but the pressure is low.

Pressure may meanwhile be growing on Saint Etienne after the changing of the guard in the recent municipal elections. We have spoken before in this column of the Communist administration under the Mayor Sanguedolce, alias Sweetblood. Well, he has gone now, and the new mayor seems much less eager to pour money down what seems to have become the bottomless pit of Saint Etienne. Elimination from the Cup by second division opposition was another blow among so many to the once triumphant Greens; but at least the blond Philippe Mahut regained his international place, against Russia.

Eastern Europe — **by Eric Batty**

Widzew Lodz a break in I

POLAND

WIDZEW LODZ'S Champions' Cup success in overthrowing Liverpool was all the more of a surprise considering their preparations.

While the Polish champions for the last two years had spent some time getting ready in Italy, keeping active during the domestic winter break they actually *postponed* a rare competitive league game on their return home to avoid the risk of injuries.

Meanwhile league leaders Slask Wroclaw went down 0-2 away to Lech Poznan (then 6th) before a crowd of 25,000. Miroslaw Okonski gave Lech the lead with a 56th minute penalty and right on time Mariusz Niewiadomski made it 2-0.

Ruch Chorzow, giants of the past who have suffered in recent years are now back among the title challengers and beat Gwerdia Warsaw 2-0 before a crowd of 10,000 with Miroslaw Bak getting both goals, one in each half. Regular scorers are what the Polish game needs, for the national team have no regular strikers apart from Wlodzimierz Smolarek who has had an operation and is still not fully fit.

Wisla Krakow attracted 15,000 for the visit of Szombierki Bytom and won 3-1. Zdzislaw Kapka gave them the lead after only four minutes and Andrsej Iwan, another international added two more after twenty minutes and sixty-five minutes. Bytom's goal was only a consolation with Grzegorz Kapica getting one when the result had been settled.

Cracovia Krakow, newly promoted, are struggling in the top-class and were watched by only 3,000 away to Zaglebia Sosnowiecz but managed a point from a 0-0 draw to move out of the relegation places, at least temporarily. Legia Warsaw who have also struggled in the last few seasons managed a 1-0 win at home to GKS Katowice before a crowd of 10,000 with Henryk Miloszewicz getting the all-important goal after seventeen minutes.

Miroslaw Okonski is the leading league scorer with nine goals for Lech Poznan and has inevitably been rewarded with a place in the national team.

The league then gave way to the needs of the national team with a get-together and a friendly run out at home to the Czech under-21 team which was watched by 15,000. The Poles won 2-0 quite comfortably with World Cup star Andrzej Buncol scoring twice. Then at Lodz, Poland played a friendly with Bulgaria before beginning their European championship campaign and won 3-1. The top goalscorer still active is Kazimierz Kmiecik of Wisla Krakow with 153 goals in league games, way ahead of anyone else. But his best days are over and he had a very limited international career.

The domestic game resumed with the FA Cup quarter finals and Wisla showed how fragile their attack can be by going down and out against Division Two Piast Gliwice by 1-0, away in the Silesian coalfield around Katowice. Gornik Zabreze who also comes from that same coalfield went down (0-1) at home in the local derby against Ruch Chorzow who stayed in line for a double and Lech Poznan won 1-0 away to Legia in Warsaw. The other semi-finalist is Lechia Gdansk who beat Zaglebie 1-0, all the Cup games ending 1-0.

The season is a long one for the final round of league games are scheduled for June 19 with the national team given preference, and the Second Division ends one week later.

EAST GERMANY

AFTER 17 rounds of league matches BFC Dynamo Berlin are still unbeaten, four points clear of the field with a game in hand.

They also have the Oberliga's top scorer in Hans-Jurgen Riediger with 16 goals but after being only half fit since the break he missed the international against Greece and has finally been forced to have a cartilage operation.

This means that someone will surely overtake him in the scorers race with three players just three goals behind: Joachim Straich (1FC Magdeburg); Ralf Minge (Dynamo Dresden) and Andreas Andrich (Vorwarts, Frankfurt) who also takes penalties, all on 13 goals.

In the 14th round 1FC Union Berlin, newly promoted, took a 1-0 lead at home to Magdeburg before the best crowd of the day (16,500) but Streich make it 1-1 to keep his side in the title race. Dynamo Berlin beat Sachsenring Zwickau by only 1-0 away from home (without Riediger) and only 5,500 saw the bottom club still without their first win.

FC Carl Zeiss Jena needed a penalty goal from libero Rudigar Schnuphase to set them on the road to a 3-1 win over the other 'Neuling' Chemie Bohlen and a total of only 78,000 braved the bad weather to see a game for an average of only 11,143 per game.

Zwickau then had their best chance of a win so far, away to Bohlen. These were the two bottom sides at the time but Chemie beat Zwickau 2-1. It seems that goalkeeper Jurgan Croy, the most capped East German of all time with 94 caps did much to keep Zwickau in the top-class, but now they look doomed. The only team without a win after 17 games they have drawn four, lost 13 and scored only seven goals to 43!

Magdeburg pulled in 16,000 for the visit of much improved Lokomotiv Leipzig and with a late goal from Streich, managed both points with a 2-1 win. On the same day Rot Weiss Erfurt were at home to Dynamo Dresden. 20,000 saw Erfurt go one up but Ralf Minge the Dresden centre-forward now 22 years old get a late equaliser to draw 1-1.

In the 16th round Dresden v Magdeburg was the match of the day and as usual Dynamo proved they are the best supported team in the DDR with a 30,000 crowd. The game ended all square at 1-1 with Andreas Trautmann the new international midfield star for Dresden getting their goal after a hard-fought game. FC Zeiss again needed libero Schnuphase to get a goal from a corner to draw 1-1 at home to much improved Vorwarts Frankfurt.

The next round of games brought an unusual event in the Oberloga. Hat tricks are rare, but the 17th round brought two! Klaus Havenstein of Chemie Bohlen was the hero of his side with three of the best in a 3-2 win at home to Union Berlin that took Chemie up several places and could have saved them from the drop. The same day Ralf Minge got all three in Dynamo Dresden's 3-1 away win against HFC Chemie Halle before a 19,000 crowd.

Schnuphase got another goal in Zeiss' 3-0 win at home to Wismut Aue and without Riediger Dynamo Berlin keep winning — but only just, taking the points week after week by the odd goal and a liberal sprinkling of 1-0 wins.

With the Dresden crowd so faithful to Dynamo, the 7,500 crowd there for the 2-1 friendly win against Greece was a surprise. Joachim Streich got what proved to be the winner after 33 minutes and he could just possibly break Jurgen Croy's record of 94 caps with no reliable scorer on the scene.

At 31 he has 88 appearances behind him, and is playing as well as ever. Dynamo Dresden's libero, Hans-Jurgen Dorner has 82 caps but at 32 and playing in midfield for the national team, it looks as if Straich has the better chance to make history. Much depends of course on the DDR's new boss Dr Rudi Krause.

This makes seven consecutive wins for the DDR at Dresden and the last time they were beaten there was way back in May, 1959 when Hungary won there by 1-0 — in the good old days.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

ONLY six games will be screened live and in full during the second-half of the league campaign with English-style highlights late on Sunday evenings filling in, in a bid to improve attendances. So far however it appears to have very little difference.

The re-start began with the semi-finals of the Czech FA Cup in which Bohemians beat Sparta 2-1 before only 4,800. Miroslav Prilozny and Milan Cermak getting the goals for the winners. Banik Ostrava went out 5-4 on penalty kicks after drawing 0-0 with Dukla Praha, watched by only 1,704. The final will be over two legs, Dukla v Bohemians with the winners meeting the holders of the Cup in Slovakia, this year in Bratislava.

Bohemians are still hanging on to their

and Leslie Vernon

Eastern Europe

d z take n Italy

slender lead at the top, and have never won the championship. If they fail this time it will be really bad luck for they are, or were quite outstanding in the CSSR. Unfortunately they have lost their top scorer Jiri Sloup, out with a cartilage operation, and Baroslav Nemec their second most successful scorer (seven league goals) has been out too with an injury that might yet need an operation. Meanwhile midfielder Pavel Chaloupka has chipped in some vital goals, as he did with the only goal in the UEFA Cup win over Dundee United (1-0 and 0-0).

Dukla also have scoring problems but at the re-start their young centre-forward Pavel Korejcik scored twice (Ladislav Tizek got the other from the spot) in the 3-0 home win over Lokomotive Kisica. Jan Kozak (ex-Dukla and an international star has been well below his best for Lokomotiv) and as usual Dukla pulled in only a poor crowd of 1,110.

Bohemians beat Red Star Cheb by 2-0 with Chaloupka getting them both, and Sparta Prague, now with Vaclav Jezek in command won 2-0 away to Brno with centre-forward Stanislav Griga scoring twice. Banik Ustrava stayed in the running with a 2-0 home win over Inter-Bratislava (Werner Licka and Petr Nemec) but gates everywhere were small.

The 17th round saw an improvement. In Prague the Sparta-Dukla local derby brought in 11,598 and after an eventful game Sparta won 3-1. Julius Bielik (Sparta) and Ivan Cabala (Dukla) were both sent off. Sparta took an early 2-0 lead through Griga and right-winger Denk, but by the interval Vizek (penalty) and Oldrich Rott had made it 2-2. Then Ivan Masek got the winner for Sparta.

Slavia have made a surprise bid for the title and beat Brno 3-2 with Josef Pesice scoring twice from midfield and Peter Herda getting the winner five minutes from the end with a spot kick. Miroslav Paurik was also sent off in an eventful weekend liberally sprinkled with cards of both colours and penalties.

Bohemians won 2-1 away to Kosica after being one down. Prilozny and Peter Zelensky got their goals, and in Prague, Vitkovice retained their high place with a 1-0 home win over Zilina with a penalty from Zdensk Svatonsky. A penalty also gave newly promoted Olomouc a 2-1 win over Ostrava, thanks to a penalty taken by Ladislav Jurkemik, transferred to Olomouc during the break and they were watched by 10,921 as they got off the bottom.

The following weekend was the day of the big Prague derbies. Bohemians dropped their first home points of the season against Sparta 0-2, a triumph for Pan Jezek, but in the absence of the Bohemians leading scorers; 16,530 saw the game, a capacity crowd at Vrsovice and this was the only game played on the Saturday. On Sunday Dukla-Slavia pulled in 8,291, most of them obviously Slavia supporters and they were rewarded with a 2-1 win. Left-back Zdenek Sajtar scored first for Slavia. Vizek made it 1-1 from the start and then in his turn Peter Herda got the winner from the spot for Slavia.

The 19th round saw Olomouc draw another good crowd of 10,510 but only drew 1-1 with Brno, but the game of the round was Slavia v Bohemians. The two clubs are less than a mile apart and an excellent crowd of 20,085 turned out to see a 2-2 draw. Slavia led 2-0 until after 67 minutes, right-back Frantisek Jakubec got one back and then with five minutes left an own goal gave Bohemians a point, but they are going to struggle to win the championship while Sparta maintained their improvement under Vaclav Bezek with a 3-0 home win over Slovan Bratislava.

Vitkovice have signed former international goalkeeper Jaroslav Netolicka from Dukla and so far this season the gates total 869,270 for an average of 5,718. In the scorers race Petr Janecka (Brno) leads with 11 goals, one more than Werner Licka (Ostrava) and Visek (Dukla).

Widzew goal-scorers Wlodek Smplarek (left) and Miroslaw Tlokinski salute the applause of generous Liverpool fans after the Poles' Champions' Cup success.

HUNGARY

HUNGARY opened their European Championship campaign in impressive fashion.

They won at Luxembourg 6-2 with a hat-trick by Poczik and further goals by Nyilasi, Poloskei and Hannich (pen.). It looks pretty good on paper, but this was a far from convincing performance, the defence was shaky and the forward-line of Fazekas-Torocsik-Poloskei non-existent.

In fact, Luxembourg scored the first goal and could have had a second but for a goal-line clearance by Imre Garaba. When the score was 5-2, Luxembourg took a penalty, but Reiter's spotkick was so badly placed, that Katzirz saved it with considerable ease.

The goalkeeper did a good job throughout, the full-backs, Peter and Toth, were not adventurous enough. Garaba did well, but his partner in the heart of the defence, Attila Kerekes, was responsible for the second Luxembourg goal when he hesitated with his tackle.

The midfield-line was the team's best department. Hannich played well, Poczik was the best man on the pitch, and Nyilais demonstrated his class occasionally. Poloskei didn't have a good game, and Fazekas didn't justify his inclusion and the good notices he habitually collects in Belgium.

Torocsik was lazy! He is still an enigma, with his enormous gifts he should shine against a team like Luxembourg, but he lacks ambition.

Meszoly was understandably satisfied with the result but not with the performance, and he hinted that changes might be necessary. Poczik's play was so impressive that he received offers after the match from Standard Liege and Antwerp, and as he is allowed to go, next season, he will be with a Belgian club.

The Olympic eleven also opened their quest for a place in the 1984 Games with a commendable draw in Bulgaria.

Sandor Kiss scored the first goal in the 47th minute, Gospodimov equalised in the 62nd minute, but Hungary were nearer to victory, and Borso was the man of the match. As the Soviet Union are the third team in this qualifying group, the Hungarians have a difficult job to make the last 16.

In the championship, Raba Gyor are leading by one point with a game in hand. Honved are second, Csepel third, and Ferencvaros are also in contention. Half-time leaders, Csepel, are dropping points, they were beaten at home 2-1 by Ujpest Dozsa, drew at Tatabanya and lost to Vasas 5-2!

The season's first double-header was played in the Nepstadion, and in front of 35,000 people, Ujpest drew with Honved 2-2, and Ferencvaros beat Vasas 4-3. Both games were decided in the last minute, but the first one was a tame affair, and the second an excellent, exciting match.

Ferencvaros, back at Ulloi-Ut on their own ground, beat the old enemy MTK/VM 2-1 the following week, and they are still unbeaten during the spring campaign. Ujpest Dozsa lost at Debrecen 2-1, there is a gap between them and the leading group, it is unlikely that the lilac-and-whites will qualify for a UEFA-Cup place.

Raba Gyor look the strongest side in Hungary at the moment, they are likely to keep the title. Their victory would be quite unique — no provincial team have ever won the championship two years running.

Cross-Section

compiled by Keir Radnedge

Weekend April 2/3
Round No 31 (of 34)

Real Madrid 2 (Garcia Hernandez 58, Pineda 80)
Athletic Bilbao 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 85,000. **Ref:** Ramos Marco.

Madrid: Garcia Remon — Juan Jose, Salguero, Bonet, Camacho — San Jose, Gallego, Garcia Hernandez (Del Bosque 58) — Juanito (Portugal 79), Santillana, Pineda. Coach: Di Stefano.

Bilbao: Zubizarreta — Urquiaga, Liceranzu (De la Fuente 72), Goicoechea, Nunez — De Andres, Sola (Noriega 66), Urtubi — Dani, Sarabia, Argote. Coach: Clemente.

Santander 5 (Chiri 33, Villuta 46, Angulo 57 pen, Paco 60, Marcelo 89 pen)
Valladolid 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 18,500. **Ref:** Damin Rendon.

Santander: Alba — Castanos, Sanudo, Mantilla, Villita — Chiri (Bernal 72), Angulo (Marcelo 83), Cidon — Chaparro, Veron, Paco. Coach: Fernandez Mora.

Valladolid: Fenoy — Pastor, Santos (Yanez 52), Garcia Navajas, Sanchez Valles — Javi, Diez More (Minguela 49) — Da Silva, Gali, Rubio. Coach: Garcia Traid.

Malaga 1 (Gasparini 58)
Zaragoza 3 (Amarilla 4, Valdano 21, Guerri 23)
HT: 0-3. **Att:** 24,000. **Ref:** Merino Gonzalez.

Malaga: Burgueno — Pop, Brescia (Rojas 30), Regenhardt, Urdaci — Astorga (Gasparini 58), Martin, Canillas — Juan Carlos, Toto, Jose. Coach: Benitez.

Zaragoza: Vitaller — Casuco, Salva, Mongado, Senor — Conde (Zayas 64), Guerri, Bielsa, Herrera — Amarilla (Latapia 69), Valdano. Coach: Beenhakker.

Celta de Vigo 3 (Ruben Fernandez 34, Mori 64, Amoros 90)
Las Palmas 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 18,000. **Ref:** Valdes Sanchez.

Celta: Mate — Lemos, Aldano, Mina (Gomez 89), Canosa — Suarez, Mori, Andres — Emiliano, Ruben Fernandez (Lucas 60), Amoros. Coach: Pavic.

Las Palmas: Menotti — Castellano, Felipe, Roque, Maye — Roman, Paez, Pepe Juan — Saavedra (Felix 46), Julio, Juani (Martino 10). Coach: Leon.

Salamanca 1 (Perez 21)
Valencia 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 15,000. **Ref:** Alvarez Marguenda.

Salamanca: D'Alessandro — Benede (Garcia Murcia 54), Bezares, Toma, Miguel Angel — Enrique, Pepe, Martinez, Perez Aguerri — Corchado (Abajo 82), Angel. Coach: Villanova.

Valencia: Bermell — Carrete, Arias, Tandito (Cesar 82), Botubot — Ribes, Subirats, Roberto — Felman (Idigoras 71), Kempes, Pablo. Coach: Koldo Aguirre.

Gijon 1 (Abel 4)
Sevilla 1 (Juan Carlos 51)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Benavente Garcia.

Gijon: Rivero — Redondo (Zundi 81), Espinosa, Jimenez, Cundi — Joaquin, Mesa, Esteban (Tino 46) — Eloy, Abel, Ferreiro. Coach: Boskov.

Sevilla: Buyo — Nino, Alvarez, Rivas, Juan Jose — Juan Carlos, Francisco, Pintinho, Lopez — Montero (Magdaleno 46), Gervasio (Blanco 80). Coach: Cardo.

Betis 4 (Rincon 24, 55 pen, 57 pen, Ramoni 68)
Osasuna 2 (Bayona 32, 85)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 28,000. **Ref:** Pandos.

Betis: Esnaola — Diego, Cantto, Alex, Casado (Romo 65) — Parra, Ortega (Ramon 56), Cardenosa, Gordillo — Barnes, Rincon. Coach: Domingo.

Osasuna: Bassan — Macua, Lasumbarri (Castaneda 75), Mina, Purroy — Diori, Lumbreras, Ripodas — Echevarria (Busnigoni 46), Bayona, Martin. Coach: Alzate.

Real Sociedad 1 (Uralde 21)
Barcelona 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 32,000. **Ref:** Soriano Aladren.

Real Sociedad: Arconada — Calleja, Gomez, Gajate, Olazola (Murillo 38) — Diego, Larranaga, Zubillaga — Baquero (Orbegozo 74), Uralde, Lopez Ufarte. Coach: Ormaechea.

Barcelona: Urruti — Sanchez, Migueli, Alesanco, Julio Alberto — Victor, Schuster, Alonso — Carrasco, Maradona, Marcos. Coach: Menotti.

Espanol 1 (Narquez 65)
Atletico Madrid 2 (Marina 62, Mugo Sanchez 71)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000 (because of live television). **Ref:** Marin Lopez.

Espanol: Nkono — Job, Gallart (Gimenez 63), Escaiza, Zuniga — Lauridsen, Marquez, Coromina (Arabi 52) — Marianon, Orejuela, Munuk. Coach: Maguregui.

Atletico: Reyes — Marcelino, Ruiz, Arteche, Clemente — Voltaire, Marina, Prieto, Quique (Landabaeru 57) — Hugo Sanchez, Rubio (Pedraza 60). Coach: Luis.

Top scorers: Rincon (Betis) 19, Amarilla (Zaragoza) 17, Valdano (Zaragoza) 16, Dani (Bilbao), Hugo Sanchez (Atletico Madrid), Sarabia (Bilbao), each 14, Kempes (Valencia), Pepe Juan (Las Palmas), each 11, Martinez (Salamanca), Pineda (Real Madrid), Uralde (Real Sociedad), each 10.

Spanish chaos

ALL HELL was let loose at Murcia on the day Spain faced France in the Olympic qualifiers.

Spain had begun their campaign — fielding, let it be noted, a full professional team selected direct from the senior national squad — with an awful goalless draw in Belgium.

But such was the enthusiasm whipped up for the Olympic home debut against France that the Murcia stadium which has a capacity limit of 24,000 held, at a conservative estimate, around 35,000 people by the time the game was due to start!

The pandemonium on the terraces, with fans spilling into the gangways and staircases, the exits, entrances and even on to the pitch, was such that there was clearly no chance of starting the game on time.

The police seemed powerless to help and Dutch referee Mulder — after pulling out a camera to take pictures of the confusion as evidence for UEFA — decided to abandon the match before it had begun.

That decision, when it became known, unleashed a storm of protest and the crowd refused to budge, growing only more threatening. Some 35 minutes after his first decision, Mulder changed his mind and decided — clearly on the advice of officials with the referee's chequebook at hand — to play after all.

This time it was the French, who had half-changed back into their civvies, who had to be persuaded. They eventually came out grudgingly for a match containing little good football and plenty of tension. Poor Mulder was later carted from both sides for his pre-match vacillation and also for misjudgements during the match.

But finally the French came out on top, snatching victory with a goal in the dying minutes created by the Nantes midfielder Touré, their best player. Xuereb's shot caught goalkeeper Buyo napping.

Meanwhile, in the league, it's Real Madrid who are riding high at the moment on the top-of-the-table seesaw, having beaten Bilbao 2-0 in Madrid to leapfrog back over the Basques. The goals came from Garcia Hernandez and Pineda — but it's a sign of Madrid's lack of attacking conviction that while Pineda is their top scorer this season in the league he's collected only 10 goals.

Barcelona, with Cesar Menotti now firmly in charge, went down 1-0 to outgoing champions Real Sociedad, but their fans have mostly given up on this season now.

One more sacking to note: Las Palmas have axed Austrian coach Walter Skocik.

Roma still lead

JUVENTUS may have been hogging much of the European glory lately, but they aren't having it all their own way in their own city of Turin — let alone in Italy.

Just as Michel Platini and co were threatening to pull together the sort of late run the threaten Roma's lead at the top, so they threw away their local derby against Torino.

Safely leading 2-0, Juventus relaxed fatally and in the last 20 minutes Torino scored three times to win the game. Giuseppe Dossena, the midfielder who is one of the key coverage players in Italy's under-21 side, was the star of the show and collected Torino's first goal for good measure.

To say that Juventus "threw it away" is not to suggest the match was fixed, of course. But the suspicion that arranged results are still a part of Calcio emerged after Inter snatched a late win away to Genoa.

The Genoese later complained that Inter weren't to be trusted and that they couldn't keep their word — an admission, in effect, that Genoa believed Inter were ready to give them at least a point.

Controversy is a regular part of life at Inter nowadays, however, so executive director Sandro Mazzola was unperturbed. He has more to worry about from inside his club where player unrest, management plans to make large-scale changes this summer, and the testy bad temper of president Ivanoe Fraizzoli complicates every game.

Mazzola is a man under pressure, even admitting for the first time that "perhaps it was a mistake to sign Juary and Hansi Muller". The Brazilian has said time after time that all he wants is to go home to South America, while Muller, his fitness a perpetual question-mark, has played only one good 45 minutes all season, the first half of the Cup-winners' Cup quarter-final first leg against Real Madrid.

At the top Roma look reasonably secure now, with Falcao popping up both with useful goals and clearing off his own goal-line. Napoli continue, at the other end, however, to make heavy weather of the fight against relegation.

Their big signing, Ramon Diaz of Argentina, has proved another flop — which might provide Torino with a salutary lesson. Juventus' neighbours have made more fuss than any other club in scouring Europe and South America for a striker to convert the intelligent midfield work of Patrizio Hernandez.

Cyrille Regis (West Bromwich), Rudi Voeller (Werder Bremen) and Ricardo Gareca (Boca Juniors) are just a few of the names mentioned. Remembering their recovery against Juventus, however, perhaps they are better off than they believed.

Young Africa can produce good players

by Eric Batty

FOOTBALL in Africa is still a comparative fledgling and in most countries needs to be carefully nursed. For years the Africans have produced really good players, as far back as Larbi Ben Barek, an inside forward of the old school who was born in Morocco but spent most of his career in Spain and France, and he was in fact the original 'Black Pearl'.

After that came Benfica stars such as Mario Coluna and Eusebio who twice helped win the European Cup, and now there is a string of African players making a living in Europe.

The tragedy for the whole of Africa is that being underdeveloped countries no one has the money to employ full-time professionals, for they need so many more things of a social nature that they cannot afford it. So for the foreseeable future the best African players will continue to drift towards European clubs, our gain and their loss.

Advanced

The African Confederation has been busy in recent years however and they already have their African Nations Cup — currently held by Ghana. The Ghanaians, who call their national team the Black Stars, also hold the West African Cup for national teams.

As the table shows, Ghana were the most active in 1982, playing 19 full internationals and unbeaten. Together with the North African States, Ghana are probably the most advanced football nation in what we can term Black Africa. But through their connections with France and Spain, as former colonies, Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria already have a firmly established game.

In 1982 the results include matches in the African Nations Cup, the West African Nations Cup and also the Central and East Africa Cup. And of course many countries played a string of friendlies with many neighbours meeting regularly in annual fixtures that pull in big crowds.

There seems to be something wrong with the game in Egypt for their national team played only twice during the year and were without a win. But at club level two Cairo clubs hold the big African trophies. Nacional SC (Cairo) hold the African equivalent of the European Cup (for champions) and Arab Contractors (Cairo) also hold the African Cup-winners Cup.

It seems clear that many governments in Africa control the game in their countries and, for example, as a result of a political decision Zaire withdrew their national team from all competitions and played no games at all in 1982. Other countries that were inactive included the Congo, the Central African Republic, Swaziland and Lesotho.

On a personal level, I have an interest in the game in Lesotho, a tiny state with only 1½ million inhabitants. I met their national team manager and am an Honorary Chief of the major tribe in Lesotho — and have a tie and a head-dress to prove it!

Two of the countries that played national team games in Africa last year are not affiliated to FIFA — Reunion and the Cape Verde Islands (which are still Portuguese Territory).

The islands are way out in the Atlantic and they figured amongst the results for the first time because they staged an international competition to which they invited a string of African countries and played with the approval of the Pan-African Confederation.

Algeria, 2-1 winners over West Germany in the World Cup in Spain proved that if they get all their best players then Africans can now hold their own at top level — and they would do even better if they could persuade European teams to visit them with the climate and ground conditions in their favour.

Cameroon also did well in Spain, drawing with Peru, Poland and Italy, and of course in Argentina the Algerians surprised a lot of people. There is no doubt that in the most advanced African countries they are producing a lot of good players. The level of skill in many countries is on a par with that of South America, and more than 20 years ago I remember being very impressed when I saw Nigeria play in England against the England amateurs — even though the Nigerians played in bare feet!

The game in Africa has come a long way since then, but so far it is European clubs that have benefited most and until the African countries can develop their economies I fear that will continue to be the case.

AFRICA INTERNATIONALS
Results Table, 1982

	P	W	D	L	F	A	%
Burundi	1	1	0	0	1	0	100.0
Zambia	8	6	1	1	15	5	81.2
Togo	7	5	1	1	11	5	78.5
Ghana	19	10	9	0	34	17	76.3
Mauritius	2	1	1	0	3	1	75.0
Libya	6	3	3	0	9	4	75.0
Kenya	4	2	2	0	7	4	75.0
Malawi	7	4	1	2	10	4	64.2
Uganda	11	5	4	2	10	11	63.6
Guinea	9	3	5	1	8	5	61.1
Cameroon	11	2	9	0	7	5	59.0
Algeria	14	7	2	5	15	17	57.1
Mali	8	4	1	3	13	8	56.2
Senegal	19	7	7	5	19	18	55.2
Morocco	5	1	3	1	8	6	50.0
Ivory Coast	5	0	5	0	11	11	50.0
Gambia	5	2	1	2	6	7	50.0
Botswana	2	1	0	1	1	2	50.0
Mozambique	1	0	1	0	1	1	50.0
Rwanda	2	1	0	1	1	1	50.0
Reunion	4	1	2	1	5	5	50.0
Zimbabwe	14	4	5	5	17	17	46.4
Upper Volta	6	1	3	2	5	6	41.6
Cape Verde Islands	5	2	0	3	5	5	40.0
Tunisia	9	3	1	5	10	9	38.8
Zanzibar	4	1	1	2	3	8	37.5
Angola	4	1	1	2	8	7	37.5
Nigeria	3	1	0	2	4	5	33.3
Liberia	3	1	0	2	2	3	33.3
Niger	6	0	4	2	5	8	33.3
Mauritania	3	1	0	2	3	8	33.3
Benin	6	1	2	3	9	13	33.3
Tanzania	9	2	2	5	6	12	33.3
Ethiopia	7	1	2	4	2	8	28.5
Egypt	2	0	1	1	3	5	25.0
Gabon	2	0	1	1	2	6	25.0
Guinea-Bissau	3	0	1	2	1	3	16.6
Sierra Leone	6	1	0	5	2	9	16.6
Congo	1	0	0	1	1	2	0.0
Somalia	1	0	0	1	0	1	0.0
Sudan	2	0	0	2	0	3	0.0

Thomas Nkono . . . Cameroon's World Cup goalkeeper now starring in Spain with Espanol Barcelona.

The Ghana League, which last year produced the Champions Cup runners-up, the Cup Winners Cup semi-finalists and the West African Club Champions has long had the reputation of being one of the toughest competitions in Africa. Recently, however, the country's poor financial position has caused many of the top players to leave the country. Bob Pateman reviews the 12 teams that will be contesting the Ghana First Division this season.

Asante Kotoko lose two of their top men

ASANTE Kotoko, last year's African Champions Cup runners-up, have been particularly badly hit, international players Kofi Badu and Albert Asase will both be playing in the Ivory Coast this year.

In addition the club face a problem with goalkeepers Joseph Carr, last season's number one, and John Abeka both having been officially warned about their poor attitude towards training. Although Asante will almost certainly finish in the top four they might not be able to regain the title they last won in 1981.

Defending champions **Great Olympics** will, once again, have Alhassan and Ben Kayode to lead their attack but they have lost a lot of their midfield strength and unless new signing Nortey can add some bite to the team they might not have enough aggression in the middle of the pitch.

Hearts of Oak, on the other hand, have a squad of players who will run and fight until the last whistle but they seem to lack the experience and skill they have had the last few seasons. A lot depends on how new signing Samuel Yeboah fits in and if he can find his goal touch then Oaks might take their first title since 1979. Whatever happens they are going to be a very hard side to beat; the question is have they enough experience to give them the consistency a league-winning side will need.

If the big three fail to find the best form the title might will go to the town of Sekondi. **Hasacas**, last year's West African champions, have a lot of talent in their squad with ball players such as Abbrey and Paha. The team, however, depends very much on 1981 player of the year Essien to score the goals and success while depend on the young international being able to avoid the injuries that he seems prone to.

Neighbours **Eleven Wise** cannot be discounted either. They made some good close-season signings, footballer of the year Kofi Abbrey being the biggest name, although midfield player Nana Benyin had been an important member of the successful Olympics side. If the new players can fit into the team right from the start of the season we might just see a new name on the championship trophy.

Accra Standfast have lost several of last year's squad and are unlikely to finish in the top half of the table while **Okwaho** now in their second season in the top division will once again require coach Afrane to use all his experience if the club are to stay up. **RA United** can usually count on a good home record and that should keep them safe but they don't look capable of anything better although by all reports George Arthur is a fine young player who could have made the grade with a more famous club. **State Traders** were formed from an amalgamation of GNTC and Akotex and are one of the two newly promoted sides in the league. They have a reputation of being a fit and hard running side but that might not be enough to keep them in the top division. The same could be said about the other newcomers **Tano Bofoakwa** only they have made a good start to their warm-up games, giving Asante a bad fright before narrowly going down 2-3 and in former Asante winger John Mensah they have an intelligent and experienced player who could make all the difference to the side.

Real Tamale were promoted in 1977 and the following year finished third in the league and won the Ghana FA Cup. Since then, however, they have not lived up to their early promise and only just escaped relegation last season. The loss of star midfield player Abedi Pele, who left Ghana to turn professional during the close season, was a bad blow and Real might not escape the drop again.

Favourites to join them in Division Two are **Cornerstone** of Kumasi former renowned cup fighters but a team who, over the past few years, have had more than their share of manager problems. The loss of star Yew Acumoah to Eleven Wise might well have been the final blow.

Great Olympics made a first-class start to the defence of their league title when they beat top rivals **Hearts of Oak** 3-1 in the opening game of the season. They then rushed to the top of the table by taking another two points off **Eleven Wise**.

Hasacas' chances of winning the Ghana league title suffered a serious blow when their team was involved in a bad accident on the way to a league match. Goalkeeper Samuel Ezzuah was killed and several other players and officials seriously injured.

Tanzania

SIMBA, the early leaders in the Tanzania League, were lucky to escape serious injury when their mini-bus lost control and turned over while the club were making a short visit to Kenya.

Simba were returning to Nairobi after losing 3-2 to KTM. Goalkeeper Idi Pazi who dislocated a shoulder appears to have received the worst injury.

JUST before they were due to start their African Cup campaign Pan African were shocked to find that captain and international winger Mohammed Yahya had left the country to start a professional career in Austria.

Yahya, who was one of the stars when Pan won their first title last year, is a talented winger who can cut inside and score goals. He is noted here for his coolness when under pressure and should be able to earn his living in Europe. Reports gave no indication of what club the player was joining.

Malawi

ONE player in trouble is international striker Barnet Gondwe.

He has been indefinitely suspended after it was discovered he had left Malawi to play in South Africa.

● *Continued from page 6*

UEFA CUP

Semi-finals, second legs

Un. Craiova 1 (Balaci 17)
Benfica 1 (Filipovic 57)
HT: 1-0 **Att:** 45,000 **Ref:** Valentine (Scot)
Benfica on away goal – 1-1 agg

Craiova: Liung — Ungureanu, Tilihoi, Systanescu, Irimescu, Telearu, Donose, Beldeanu, Geolgau, Crisan, Camataru

Benfica: Bento — Pietra, Humberto Coelho, Bastos Lopes I, Alvaro — Shu, Stromberg (Bastos Lopes II 70), Chalana — Nene, Filipovic, Diamantino.

The attacking philosophy of Benfica's Swedish coach Sven-Goran Eriksson paid handsome dividends for the Portugese club, though they lived dangerously for a while against the eager Craiova, attempting to become the first Romanian side to reach a European final. Ilie Balaci gave Bento no chance with his 17th-minute shot to put Craiova ahead. But on the half-hour Camataru made a vital mistake when, after a 40-yard charge through the Benfica defence, he put his shot too close to Bento, who saved for a corner. In the 40th minute Benfica provided their first warning of what was to come when Filipovic saw a shot fly wide off the post. But the Yugoslav made no mistake in the 52nd minute after a Benfica counter-attack caught the Romanians totally exposed at the back.

Anderlecht 3 (Vandenbergh 37 pen, Brylle 40, Czerniatynski 88)
Bohemians Praha 1 (Jakubec 54)
HT: 2-0 **Att:** 40,000 **Ref:** Courtney (Eng)
Anderlecht 4-1 on agg

Anderlecht: Munaron — Hofkens, Olsen, Peruzovic, De Groote — Lozano, Frimann, Coeck, Vercauteren — Vandenbergh, Brylle (Czerniatynski).

Bohemians: Z. Hruska — Jakubec, Prokes, Drozdsky, Levy, Chalupka, Zelensky, Kouka, Cermak, Micnec (Pridny), V. Hruska

Anderlecht moved comfortably through, cushioned by their victory in Prague. Erwin Vandenbergh opened the scoring from the penalty spot after Jakubec pulled down Per Frimann, and Kenneth Brylle made it 2-0 when Bohemians failed to clear a Lozano free kick and Vercauteren's follow-up shot was blocked. Jakubec made up for his earlier error by heading Bohemians' only goal after a free kick, but Anderlecht rounded off a successful evening when substitute Czerniatynski climaxed an end-to-end move with goal number 3.

Al Ahli struggle with late penalty

from Bob Pateman

TWO OF last year's most successful sides, Enugu Rangers and Al Ahli, faced problems in their first leg ties of the African Champions Cup.

Al Ahli, such convincing winners of the trophy last year, struggled in front of their home supporters and it took a last minute penalty from El Khatib to break the deadlock with Sudan's El-Merrikh.

Enugu Rangers of Nigeria, semi-finalists last year, are in even more trouble. Facing little known Fisheries FC (Sierra Leone) they were out-played on their own ground with previously unheard of winger Andrew Hooyser giving them all kinds of trouble.

It was the left winger who broke through to score the only goal of the match mid-way through the second half.

Power Dynamo of Zimbabwe however must have been well pleased with their 5-1 win over Kenyan side Leopards. Kembo Chunga, his brother Moses, a pre-season signing from local league side Lytton Wolves, Mpofana (2) and Katsvere were the scorers.

Meanwhile Pan African brought a little light to their disastrous season with a 2-1 away win in Mogadishu where they played Somalia champions Waagal FC. Ferroviario of Mozambique also scored an away win, returning from Lesotho with a 2-1 victory over Matlama.

Highlight of the Cup-winners Cup first round was the KMKM (Tanzania) CAPS United (Zimbabwe) tie which produced five goals.

CAPS came to the match in high spirits having had their three first team players released from the army to appear for them and midfield star M'Tirwa played a particularly good game.

That excellent veteran Ramadhani gave the home team an early lead but CAPS were soon controlling the midfield and were 2-1 up at half-time.

Shacky Tauro, who did not enjoy his last appearance on this ground in the East African Club Championship, looked much sharper this time and he scored both the first half goals for the visitors. International winger Friday Phiri created the third for Moyo and although Issa cut the lead CAPS should not be too worried about their prospects in the return match.

Another side well happy with their first leg results are Green Buffaloes (Zambia) who hit five past Mozambique's Maxaquene. Shawa (2), Kaimana, Mwanza and Zulu were the scorers.

Egypt's Arab Contractors started their defence of the trophy with a 0-0 draw away to Vitalo of Burundi, the side who lost their preliminary round match 1-2 at home but then went on to win the away leg in Kenya.

Another escape

Arab Contractors, however, are a much tougher side and Vitalo are unlikely to perform another escape act. Kampala City Council fans were less happy with their team's performance against Horseed of Somalia, particularly when there was no score with 6 minutes to go.

However last minute goals from Serutana and Masinga won the fans home a little happier but left the club wondering how they could find enough money to send the team to the second leg.

Omnisport Agaza are the latest club from the tiny West African state of Togo to produce a surprise result in the Cup-winners' Cup, demolishing the Cameroon side Dragon Yaounde 7-1 on aggregate. Already 3-0 up from the away leg the Togo side won 4-1 on their home ground.

The other surprise of the first round was Bein's Buffles 2-1 victory over Asec in the Ivory Coast capital of Abidjan. The result didn't affect the tie though as Asec still went through, thanks to their 4-1 lead from the first match.

Other big name sides had less problems. Holders Arab Contractors made no mistake against Vitalo of Burundi, goals from Hamdi Nuh, Nasser Mohamed Ali (2), Magdi Drawish and Abouaida (2) gave them a 6-1 win in front of their home fans. One of their main challengers this year look like being Ghana side Eleven Wise who enjoyed a 5-1 aggregate win over El Nasa of Libya. Vita of Zaire, experienced campaigners in both African competitions were another team to hit top form.

They scored four at home to Nguema of Equatorial Guinea to add to their 1-0 win in the away leg.

Stationary Stores of Nigeria, runners up in this competition in 1981, are through to the next round but not without a tough fight against Cape United of Gabon who came to Nigeria and held the home side to a goalless draw. The tie was decided by Stationary Stores' one goal lead from the first tie.

One of the most intriguing games was between A. S. Police of Dakar and Raja who were making one of Morocco's rare entries into African Club soccer. Police took a narrow one goal lead to North Africa from the first leg but in the end it proved to be enough, the second game in Casablanca ending without a goal.

A draw too for Green Buffaloes in Mozambique but the Zambia side were 5-1 up from the home game. CAPS United meanwhile added to their 3-2 first leg lead by beating KMKM 4-0 in Zimbabwe, Shacky Tauro scoring another two goals. Closest of all though was Kampala C.C.'s win over Horseed of Somalia. Kampala went to the second leg with a two-nil lead which in the end was just enough as they held Horseed to a single goal.

Plenty of excitement too in Conakry where Holeya, winners of this competition in 1978, beat Free Town Warriors (Sierra Leone) 3-2 on the day and 4-2 on aggregate.

Meanwhile in the Congo Cherimonte Pointe Noire beat Premeiro of Angola 2-0 to overcome their 2-3 defeat in the first leg.

BENFICA TOP

BENFICA are dominating the Portuguese scene again and the elimination of Italian league leaders Roma in the UEFA Cup quarter-finals, gave rise to talk of Benfica achieving the treble: league, cup and UEFA Cup, writes JOSE FERNANDES.

The league seems to be almost theirs as the Eagles have a four-point advantage over FC Porto — though the Oporto club have appealed against the result of their drawn match at Estoril. As for the cup it's early days yet but already Benfica have beaten neighbours Sporting 3-0.

Sven-Goran Eriksson, Benfica's Swedish coach, has caught opponents by surprise with his policy of attack, home and away. Although Benfica has risked a lot abroad, his gamble has surely paid off: Betis, Lokeren and Roma have all been beaten away and a 1-1 draw was achieved against Servette.

If you realise that, compared for example with England, Portuguese players earn more but are cheaper to buy, it doesn't come as a surprise that Benfica, already having 16 internationals, are looking for new men! Sweden's Glenn Stromberg was bought recently, although he can't play together with Filipovic — scorer of the three goals against Roma (only one foreigner per team is allowed to play in Portugal).

Now two of the most promising Portuguese players, Guimarães left-back Laureta and Braga central-defender and midfielder Dito (scorer of the winning goal against West Germany), are being tempted to move to the Estadio da Luz.

In Portugal club presidents are elected every year by the club's share-holders, which in Benfica's case numbered more than 50,000 and in a televised debate between the two candidates — president Fernando Martins and candidate Jorge de Brito — it was interesting that both agreed on the need to enlarge the Estadio da Luz from its present 75,000 capacity.

European Championship

Preliminary Round
Group 1

6.10.82	Belgium — Switzerland	3-0
13.10.82	Scotland — E. Germany	2-0
17.11.82	Switzerland — Scotland	2-0
15.12.82	Belgium — Scotland	3-2
30. 3.83	Scotland — Switzerland	2-2
30. 3.83	E. Germany — Belgium	1-2
27. 4.83	Belgium — E. Germany	
14. 5.83	Switzerland — E. Germany	
12.10.83	Scotland — Belgium	
12.10.83	E. Germany — Switzerland	
9.11.83	Switzerland — Belgium	
16.11.83	E. Germany — Scotland	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	3	3	0	0	8	3	6
Scotland	4	1	1	2	6	7	3
Switzerland	3	1	1	1	4	5	3
E. Germany	2	0	0	2	1	4	0

Group 2

8. 9.82	Finland — Poland	2-3
22. 9.82	Finland — Portugal	0-2
10.10.82	Portugal — Poland	2-1
13.10.82	USSR — Finland	2-0
17. 4.83	Poland — Finland	1-1
27. 4.83	USSR — Portugal	
22. 5.83	Poland — USSR	
1. 6.83	Finland — USSR	
21. 9.83	Portugal — Finland	
9.10.83	USSR — Poland	
26.10.83	Poland — Portugal	
13.11.83	Portugal — USSR	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portugal	2	2	0	0	4	1	4
Poland	3	1	1	1	5	5	3
USSR	1	1	0	0	2	0	2
Finland	4	0	1	3	3	8	1

Group 3

22. 9.82	Denmark — England	2-2
9.10.82	Luxembourg — Greece	0-2
10.11.82	Luxembourg — Denmark	1-2
17.11.82	Greece — England	0-3
15.12.82	England — Luxembourg	9-0
27. 3.83	Luxembourg — Hungary	2-6
30. 3.83	England — Greece	0-0
16. 4.83	Hungary — Luxembourg	6-2
27. 4.83	England — Hungary	
27. 4.83	Denmark — Greece	
15. 5.83	Hungary — Greece	
1. 6.83	Denmark — Hungary	
21. 9.83	England — Denmark	
12.10.83	Hungary — England	
12.10.83	Denmark — Luxembourg	
26.10.83	Hungary — Denmark	
16.11.83	Greece — Denmark	
16.11.83	Luxembourg — England	
3.12.83	Greece — Hungary	
14.12.83	Greece — Luxembourg	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	4	2	2	0	14	2	6
Hungary	2	2	0	0	12	4	4
Denmark	2	1	1	0	4	3	3
Greece	3	1	1	1	2	3	3
Luxembourg	5	0	0	5	5	17	0

Group 4

22. 9.82	Wales — Norway	1-0
13.10.82	Norway — Yugoslavia	3-1
27.10.82	Bulgaria — Norway	2-2
17.11.82	Bulgaria — Yugoslavia	0-1
15.12.82	Yugoslavia — Wales	4-4
27. 4.83	Wales — Bulgaria	
7. 9.83	Norway — Bulgaria	
21. 9.83	Norway — Wales	
12.10.83	Yugoslavia — Norway	
16.11.83	Bulgaria — Wales	
14.12.83	Wales — Yugoslavia	
21.12.83	Yugoslavia — Bulgaria	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wales	2	1	1	0	5	4	3
Norway	3	1	1	1	5	4	3
Yugoslavia	3	1	1	1	6	7	3
Bulgaria	2	0	1	1	2	3	1

Group 5

1. 5.82	Romania — Cyprus	3-1
8. 9.82	Romania — Sweden	2-0
6.10.82	Czech — Sweden	2-2
13.11.82	Italy — Czech	3-2
13.11.82	Cyprus — Sweden	0-1
4.12.82	Italy — Romania	0-0
12. 2.83	Cyprus — Italy	1-1
27. 3.83	Cyprus — Czech	1-1
16. 4.83	Romania — Italy	1-0
16. 4.83	Czech — Cyprus	6-0
15. 5.83	Sweden — Cyprus	
15. 5.83	Romania — Czech	
26. 5.83	Sweden — Italy	
9. 6.83	Sweden — Romania	
21. 9.83	Sweden — Czech	
15.10.83	Italy — Sweden	
12.11.83	Cyprus — Romania	
16.11.83	Czech — Italy	
30.11.83	Czech — Romania	
22.12.83	Italy — Cyprus	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Romania	4	3	1	0	6	1	7
Czechoslovakia	4	1	3	0	11	5	5
Italy	4	0	3	1	3	4	3
Sweden	3	1	1	1	3	4	3
Cyprus	5	0	2	3	3	12	2

Group 6

22. 9.82	Austria — Albania	5-0
13.10.82	Austria — N. Ireland	2-0
27.10.82	Turkey — Albania	1-0
17.11.82	N. Ireland — W. Germany	1-0
17.11.82	Austria — Turkey	4-0
15.12.82	Albania — N. Ireland	0-0
30. 3.83	N. Ireland — Turkey	2-1
30. 3.83	Albania — W. Germany	1-2
23. 4.83	Turkey — W. Germany	
27. 4.83	Austria — W. Germany	
27. 4.83	N. Ireland — Albania	
12. 5.83	Albania — Turkey	
8. 6.83	Albania — Austria	
21. 9.83	N. Ireland — Austria	
5.10.83	W. Germany — Austria	
12.10.83	Turkey — N. Ireland	
26.10.83	W. Germany — Turkey	
16.11.83	W. Germany — N. Ireland	
16.11.83	Turkey — Austria	
20.11.83	W. Germany — Albania	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria	3	3	0	0	11	0	6
N. Ireland	4	2	1	1	3	3	5
W. Germany	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Turkey	3	1	0	2	2	6	2
Albania	4	0	1	3	1	8	1

Group 7

5. 6.82	Malta — Iceland	2-1
1. 9.82	Iceland — Holland	1-1
22. 9.82	Holland — Rep. Ireland	2-1
13.10.82	Rep. Ireland — Iceland	2-0
27.10.82	Spain — Iceland	1-0
17.11.82	Rep. Ireland — Spain	3-3
19.12.82	Malta — Holland	0-6
16. 2.83	Spain — Holland	1-0
30. 3.83	Malta — Rep. Ireland	0-1
27. 4.83	Spain — Rep. Ireland	
15. 5.83	Malta — Spain	
29. 5.83	Iceland — Spain	
5. 6.83	Iceland — Malta	
7. 9.83	Holland — Iceland	
21. 9.83	Iceland — Rep. Ireland	
12.10.83	Rep. Ireland — Holland	
16.11.83	Holland — Spain	
16.11.83	Rep. Ireland — Malta	
17.12.83	Holland — Malta	
21.12.83	Spain — Malta	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Holland	4	2	1	1	9	3	5
Rep. Ireland	4	2	1	1	7	5	5
Spain	3	2	1	0	5	3	5
Malta	3	1	0	2	2	8	2
Iceland	4	0	1	3	2	6	1

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CH'SHIP
Progress to date

1. 5.82	Cyprus-Rumania (Group 5)	1-2
31. 8.82	Iceland-Holland (Gp 7)	1-1
5. 9.82	Soviet Union-Poland (2)	1-1
8. 9.82	Finland-Poland (2)	0-0
21. 9.82	Finland-Portugal (2)	1-1
21. 9.82	Denmark-England (3)	1-4
21. 9.82	Wales-Norway (4)	0-0
21. 9.82	Austria-Albania (6)	1-2
5.10.82	Czechoslovakia-Sweden (5)	2-1
5.10.82	Belgium-Switzerland (1)	0-0
9.10.82	Portugal-Poland (2)	1-0
12.10.82	Scotland-East Germany (1)	2-0
12.10.82	Soviet Union-Finland (2)	3-2
12.10.82	Norway-Yugoslavia (4)	2-2
26.10.82	Bulgaria-Norway (4)	2-0
26.10.82	Turkey-Albania (6)	0-1
27.10.82	Poland-Finland (2)	4-0
27.10.82	Italy-Rumania (5)	2-0
27.10.82	Spain-Iceland (7)	1-0
27.10.82	Luxembourg-Sweden (8)	0-4
11.11.82	Czechoslovakia-Italy (5)	3-1
11.11.82	France-Sweden (8)	1-0
16.11.82	Switzerland-Scotland (1)	3-4
16.11.82	Greece-England (3)	1-0
16.11.82	Bulgaria-Yugoslavia (4)	0-2
16.11.82	Austria-Turkey (6)	1-1
1.12.82	Cyprus-Italy (5)	0-1
14.12.82	Belgium-Scotland (1)	1-2
14.12.82	Yugoslavia-Wales (4)	2-0
16. 2.83	Holland-Spain (7)	5-0
23. 3.83	Luxembourg-France (8)	0-5
27. 3.83	Czechoslovakia-Cyprus (5)	2-0
29. 3.83	Albania-W. Germany (6)	1-1
29. 3.83	England-Greece (3)	2-1
29. 3.83	Scotland-Switzerland (1)	2-1
29. 3.83	E. Germany-Belgium (1)	2-1
16. 4.83	Cyprus-Czechoslovakia (5)	
23. 4.83	Turkey-W. Germany (6)	
26. 4.83	Belgium-W. Germany (1)	
26. 4.83	Soviet Union-Portugal (2)	
26. 4.83	England-Hungary (3)	
26. 4.83	Denmark-Greece (3)	
26. 4.83	Wales-Bulgaria (4)	
26. 4.83	Austria-W. Germany (6)	
27. 4.83	Italy-Czechoslovakia (5)	
11. 5.83	Albania-Turkey (6)	
12. 5.83	Sweden-Luxembourg (8)	
13. 5.83	Switzerland-E. Germany (1)	
14. 5.83	Hungary-Greece (3)	
14. 5.83	Romania-Czechoslovakia (5)	
21. 5.83	Poland-Sov. Union (2)	
29. 5.83	Iceland-Spain (7)	
31. 5.83	Finland-Sov. Union (2)	
31. 5.83	Denmark-Hungary (3)	
7. 6.83	Albania-Austria (6)	

EURO-RESULTS

CHAMPIONS' CUP
Quarter-finals, 2nd legs (March 16)

Hamburg 1 (Hartwig 61)
Dynamo Kiev 2 (Besonov 51, Yevtushenko 82)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Ulf Eriksson (Swe)
Hamburg 4-2 on agg

Hamburg: Stein — Kaltz, Hieronymus, Jakobs, Wehmeyer — Groh, Hartwig, Magath, Rolff — Hrubesch, Milewski.

Kiev: Michailov — Sosnovski, Onifrenko, Baltacha, Demyanenko — Luznisky, Dychalenky (Blokhin 46), Buryak, Bal, Besonov (Yesseyev 90) — Yevtushenko.

Juventus 3 (Platini 13 and 69, Tardelli 27)
Aston Villa 1 (Withe 81)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 65,000. **Ref:** Keizer (Hol)
Juventus 5-2 on agg

Juventus: Zoff — Gentile, Cabrini, Bonini, Brio (Furino 77), Scirea, Bettega, Tardelli, Rossi, Platini, Boniek.

Villa: Spink — Williams, Gibson, Evans, McNaught, Mortimer, Bremner, Shaw, Withe, Cowans, Walters.

Liverpool 3 (Neal 14 pen, Rush 70, Smolarek 89)
Widzew Lodz 2 (Tlokinski 33 pen, Smolarek 53)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 44,940. **Ref:** Trischler (WG)
Widzew 4-3 on agg

Liverpool: Grobbelaar — Neal, A. Kennedy (Fairclough 45), Lawrenson, Whelan (Thompson 37), Hansen, Hodgson, Lee, Rush, Johnston, Souness.

Widzew: Mlynarczyk — Swiatek, Wojcicki, Tlokinski, Kaminski — Romke, Surlit, Rozborski (Wozak 71) — Filipczak, Wraga (Mysliwski 62), Smolarek.

Real Sociedad 2 (Larranaga 41, Bagueri 68)
Sporting Lisbon 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Ramos (Port)
Real Sociedad 2-1 on agg

Real: Arconada — Murillo, Gorriz, Corbierna, Olaizola — Diego (Orbegozo 75), Larranaga, Zamora — Begueng (Zubildia 83), Uralde, Lopez Ufarte.

Sporting: Meurariss — Ademar, Kikas, Zoe-zinho, Xavier — Nogueira, Fedias, Oliveira, Lito — Manuel Fernandes, Freire (Marinho 76).

CUP-WINNERS' CUP
Quarter-finals, 2nd legs (March 16)

Aberdeen 3 (Simpson 39, McLeish 77, Hewitt 79)
Bayern Munich 2 (Augenthaler 10, Pfluger 61)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Vautrot (F)
Aberdeen 3-2 on agg

Aberdeen: Leighton — Kennedy (Masters 66), McLeish, Miller, Rougvie, Strachan, Cooper, Simpson (Hewitt 76), Black, McGhee, Weir.

Bayern: Muller — Dremmler, Grobe, Augenthaler, Horsmann — Breitner, Pfluger (Mathy 63), Kraus — Del Haye, D. Hoeness, Rummenigge.

Barcelona 1 (Alexanco 44)
FK Austria 1 (Steinkogler 37)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 80,000. **Ref:** Prokop (EG)
FK Austria on away goal – 1-1 agg

Barcelona: Amador — Sanchez, Miguel, Alexanco, Estella — Miguel Alonso, Schuster (Esteban 83), Maradona — Pichi Alonso (Moran 60), Quini, Carrasco.

FK Austria: Konrath — Sara, Obermayer, Zore, Baumeister, Degeorgi, Polster, Musiedanagic, Steinkogler, Cassalich, Magyar (Dihanich 58, Daxbacher 88)

Real Madrid 2 (Salguero 51, Santillana 56)
Internazionale 1 (Altobelli 21)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 80,000 (1,000,000 receipts). **Ref:** Christov (Cz)
Real Madrid 3-2 on agg

Madrid: Garcia Remon — San Jose, Salguero, Metgod, Camacho — Gallego (Juan Jose 30), Angel, Stielike — Juanito (Del Bosque 87), Santillana, Pineda.

Inter: Bordon — Bergomi, Collovati, Bini, G. Baresi — Ferri, Bagni, Muller (Bergamaschi 71), Orsetti — Altobelli, Juary (Beccalossi 56).

Waterschei 3 (Gudmundsson 29, R. Janssen 68, P. Janssen 114)
Paris Saint-Germain 0
HT: 1-0. **90 min:** 2-0. **Att:** 32,600. **Ref:** Thomas (Wal)
Waterschei 3-2 on agg after extra-time

Waterschei: Pudelko — Marcos, P. Piessens, Cloisters, David — Van Kraay, Y. Piessens, P. Janssen — R. Janssen, Voordeckers, Gudmundsson (Berger 65).

Paris SG: Baratelli — Lemoult, Pilorget, Bathenay, Bacconnier — Fernandez, Boubacar, Dahleb — Susic (Rocheteau 65), Toko, Kist. *Lemoult sent off 114; Boubacar sent off 118.

UEFA CUP
Quarter-finals, 2nd legs (March 16)

Anderlecht 3 (Brylle 35, 61, De Groote 39)
Valencia 1 (Ribes 50)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 45,000. **Ref:** Agnolin (It). Played in the Heysel stadium
Anderlecht 5-2 on agg

Anderlecht: Munaron — Hofkens, Olsen, Peruzovic, De Groote — Fremann, Lozano, Coeck, Vercauteren — Vandenbergh, Brylle.

Valencia: Berindi — Camele, Tendillo, Arias, Serrat — Ribes (Cesar 70), Castellanos, Roberto — Fellman (Saura 47), Kempes, Pablo.

Benfica 1 (Filipovic 18)
Roma 1 (Falcao 86)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 75,000. **Ref:** Palotai (Hun)
Benfica 3-2 on agg

Benfica: Bento — Pietra, Humberto Coelho, A. Bastos Lopes, Alvaro — Carlos Manuel, Shwu, Alves, Chalana (Diamantino 67) — Nene, Filipovic (Jose Luis 69).

Roma: Tancredi — Vierchowod, Nappi, Righetti, Nela — Prohaska, Maldera, Falcao — Chierico, Faccini (Ancelotti 69), Conti (Iorio 28)

Dundee Utd 0
Bohemians Prague 0
Att: 20,000. **Ref:** Daina (Swz)
Bohemians 1-0 on agg

Dundee Utd: McAlpine — Stark (Reilly), Malpas, Gough, Hegarty, Narey, Bannon, Milne, Kirkwood, Shirlock, Dodds.

Bohemians: Hrapka — Jakubec, Prokes, Zelensky, Levy, Bicovsky, Marcik, Chaloupka, Cermak, Koukal, Priduny.

Un. Craiova 1 (Negrila 33)
Kaiserslautern 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 55,000. **Ref:** Hackett (Eng)
Craiova on away goals – 3-3 agg

Craiova: Lung — Negrila, Stefanescu, Ungureanu, Tilihoi, Ticleanu, Donose (Beldeanu 46), Balaci, Geolgau (Cirtu 75), Crisan, Camataru.

Kaiserslautern: Reichel — Dusek, Briegel, Melzer, Eilenfeldt, Wolf, Geye, Brehme, Bongartz, Nilsson (Hubner 86), T. Allofs.

EUROPEAN INTERNATIONAL REVIEW
MARCH 9

Varna — friendly
Bulgaria 1 (Getov 84)
Switzerland 1 (Ponte 63)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 12,000. **Ref:** Namoglu (Turk)

Bulgaria: Yelmov — Nikolov, Manev, G. Dimitrov, Tinchev — Naidenov (Getov 76), Borisov (Spassov 71), Zdravkov — Yonchev, Pechlivanov (Yordanov 65), Mladenov.

Switzerland: Burgener — Lüdi, Geiger, Egli, Heinz Hermann — Weinli (In-Albon 46), Favre, Decastel — Ponte, Brigger (Massen 89), Elsener (Braschler 46).

This game should not be taken as a typical guide to form since both sets of players had barely restarted their league programme after the winter break. Bulgaria had won only once in the previous nine games and that against Malta, so they were clearly concerned to make improvements before the European championship was once again round the corner. As for Switzerland, they had lost just two of their previous 11 games but lined up in Varna without star striker Claudio Sulser, recovering from an operation on an injury suffered during a winter break indoor tournament. The game was spoiled by the strong, gusty wind which blew over the post from which the Bulgarian flag was flying before the game. The wind upset the players, however, so it wasn't until the second half that the serious action began. In the 53rd minute Zdravkov's shot beat Swiss skipper Erich Burgener but struck a post. Then, 10 minutes later, Raimondo Ponte put the Swiss ahead with a curling free kick after Manev had pulled back the fast-breaking Favre by the shirt. It wasn't until six minutes from the end that Bulgaria equalised: again it was from a free kick, this time converted by substitute Getov after Decastel had been harshly penalised for a foul tackle.

Targu Mures — friendly (March 9)
Romania 2 (Balaci 7 and 19 pen, Boloni 87)
Turkey 1 (Rasit 36)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 17,000. **Ref:** Stumpf (EG)

Romania: Moraru (Lung 46) — Radnic, Iorgulescu, Andone, Ungureanu (Munteanu II 64) — Balint (Ticleanu 64), Boloni, Klein, Balaci — Geolgau (Gabor 46), Camataru (Coras 80).

Turkey: Eser — Erdogan, Bilal, Fatih, Hakan — Rasit, Eren, Huseyin — Metin, Selcuk, Hassan.

Romania demonstrated their determination to carry all before them as early as the fourth minute when only a desperate goal-line clearance by Bilal saved Turkey from going behind so soon. Geolgau was the disappointed Romanian forward, but at least the fans didn't have much longer to wait before Balaci produced a beauty. He exchanged passes with Klein in midfield before sinking forward to drive a shot past Eser from the edge of the penalty area. Balaci it was who scored No. 2 from a penalty after Fatih had brought down the dangerous Geolgau. Turkey pulled one back through Rasit after a Fatih free kick but once spearhead Selcuk had been sent off by the East German referee for a revenge foul on Klein, the Turks had the look of beaten men — an impression confirmed when Boloni scored after a corner in the dying minutes.

MARCH 16

Magdeburg — friendly
East Germany 3 (Streich 12, Richter 15 and 62)
Finland 1 (Hjelm 82)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 12,000. **Ref:** Mustafaa (Rom)

E. Germany: Rudwaleit — Kreer, Trieloff, Schnuphase, Stahmann — Trautmann, Dörner, Pommerenke (Liebers 72) — Richter, Streich, Kuhn (Heun 82)

Finland: Huttunen — Pekkonen, Kymalainen, Granskog, Remes — Turunen, Houtsonen, Ismail (Hjelm 66), Talvio (Rasimus 46) — Kousa (Annunen 62), Ikalainen

East Germany had an easy time in their warm-up match for the European tie against Belgium a fortnight later. As it turned out, perhaps this was too easy a test. After a quarter of an hour the match was over as a contest with the hosts leading 2-0. The only surprise was that they didn't score many more goals. But in the second half veterans Dörner and Pommerenke in midfield appeared to lose their way and the troublesome Streich and Richter received nothing like the early service. Some neat interpassing provided the early goals for Streich and Richter, with the Karl-Marx-Stadt striker heading the third from a centre by right back Kreer — who was later caught napping when substitute Hjelm claimed Finland's consolation.

MARCH 23

Paris — friendly
France 1 (Fernandez 43)
Soviet Union 1 (Cherenkov 30)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Courtney (Eng)

France: Tempet — Bossis, Mahut (Tusseau 78), Bossis, Amoros — Giresse, Ferrari, Fernandez, Platini (Tigana 46) — Stopyra, Amisse (Rocheteau 65)

Sov. Union: Dassayev — Lomovov, Borovsky, Baltacha, Demyanenko — Bessonov, Cherenkov, Bal (Gazzayev 55), Buryak (Oganesean 63) — Rodionov, Blokhin (Yevtushenko 70).

France and the Soviets — World Cup finalists both last summer — drew in an entertaining game which formed part of the French warm-up for next year's European championship finals. As hosts, of course, they don't get match practice in qualifiers. After surviving an early French assault, the Soviets gradually took control and it was no surprise when Cherenkov opened the score on the half-hour. Oleg Blokhin, who had earlier missed a good chance, laid the ball back and when Rodionov's shot was blocked there was Cherenkov to follow up and score. With Michel Platini starting to pull his weight, France pulled back into the game and it was the Juventus star whose backheel of an Amisse cross created the opening for Luis Fernandez to equalise. It prove a popular goal since Fernandez was playing in front of his "home" Paris Saint-Germain crowd. The second half was mostly France with Stopyra rattling the Soviet defence. In the 67th minute he had one shot blocked luckily by Dassayev and then, when Girresse clipped back the loose ball, the Lyon striker headed hastily over the bar.

Lodz — friendly (March 23)
Poland 3 (Majewski 2, Dziekanowski 67, Okonski 75)
Bulgaria 1 (Naidenov 34)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 3,000. **Ref:** Peschel (EG)

Poland: Mlynarczyk — Majewski (Dziuba 46), Wojcicki, Kroll, Jalocha — Buncol, Tlokinski (Buda 46), Kupcewicz, Ciolek, (Pekala 85) — Dziekanowski, Smolarek (Okonski 46).

Bulgaria: Velinov — Nikolov, D. Dimitrov, G. Dimitrov, Trichev — Naidenov (Spassov 65), Yonchev (Getov 72), Borisov, Zdravkov (Markov 85) — Yordanov, Mladenov.

Both teams had forthcoming European ties on their mind, but Poland appeared the far better prepared, playing some crisp football, particularly after the Bulgarians had equalised at 1-1 midway through the first half. Poland relied on the foundations of the team who finished third in last year's World Cup finals, while Bulgarian boss Ivan Vitzov tried several experiments within a cautious 4-4-2 framework.

MARCH 27

Luxembourg — Euro champ gp 2
Luxembourg 2 (Rader 3, R. Schreiner 55)
Hungary 6 (Poczik 31, 59, 70; Nyilasi 41; Poloskei 51, Hannich 57 pen)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 3,000. **Ref:** Geurds (Hol)

Luxembourg: Moes — Michaux, Marcel Bossi, Dresch, Meunier — Girres, Weiss, Langers, Fred Schreiner (Nuremberg 62) — Romain Schreiner, Reter.

Hungary: Katzirz — Peter, Kerekes, Garaba, Toth — Hannich, Nyilasi, Poczik, Poloskei, — Fazekas (Kiss 63), Torocsik (Hajszan 73).

The addition of league leaders Raba ETO midfielders Peter Hannich and Jozsef Poczik clearly gave Hungary more purpose — more, certainly, than they demonstrated in the World Cup finals last summer. Even though they quickly went a goal down to Reiter, the Hungarians were ahead by half-time and went on relentlessly running in the goals after the break. Watching England manager Bobby Robson was impressed by what he saw, but not despondent. His faith in England remained unchanged — possibly even strengthened by the way in which the Luxembourg strikers occasionally found a way to threaten Bela Katzirz in the Hungarian goal. That signalled Hungarian defensive weaknesses which might bode well for England. Luxembourg might have had three goals, but Reiter missed a late penalty.

Nicosia — Euro champ gp 5
Cyprus 1 (Theophanous 21)
Czechoslovakia 1 (Bicovsky 58)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 12,000. **Ref:** Glavina (Yug)

Cyprus: Constantinou — Miamiliotis, N. Panayiotou, Kitas, Kazos (Andreou 69) — Kouis (Dimitriou 76), Yiagoudakis, Kanaras — Mavris, Savides, Theophanous.

Czechoslovakia: Hruska — Jakubec, Fiala, Prokes, Levy — Chaloupka, Zelebsky, K. Jarolim (Sloany 60) — Vizek, Cermak, Petrzelka (Bicovsky 58).

Cyprus, who had given Italy a nasty surprise the previous month, did not let Czechoslovakia off the hook either. They surprised the Czechs by going straight on to the attack from the kick-off and Czech goalkeeper Zdenek Hruska pulled off a string of fine early saves. He was lucky in the 14th minute when a low drive by Yiangoudakis went narrowly wide but seven minutes later that incident was forgotten when Cyprus went ahead. A long ball from full-back Kazos found Theophanous on the edge of the penalty area and he scored after his first shot had been blocked. Where the Cypriots had much of the first half, Czechoslovakia demanded much of the second half. Yet Cyprus could have gone back in front in the 51st minute, when a Yiangoudakis shot rebounded off the post, hit Hruska and flew out of play.

MARCH 30

Leipzig — Euro champ gp 1
East Germany 1 (Streich 83)
Belgium 2 (Van der Elst 36, Vandenbergh 69)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 75,000. **Ref:** Carpenter (RI)

E. Germany: Rudwaleit — Kreer, Trebitoff, Schnuphase, Stahmann — Trautmann, Dorner, Lieders — Richter (Busse 69), Streich, Kuhn (Heun 60).

Belgium: Munaron — Gerets, Meeuws (Clijsters 85), Millecamps, De Groote (Baecke 46) — Vandermissen, Coeck, Vercauteren, Van der Elst — Vandenbergh, Ceulemans.

Belgium strengthened their chances of returning to the European finals — they were runners-up in 1980 to West Germany — when they won this awkward match in East Germany. Team captain Eric Gerets and in-form striker Erwin Vandenbergh were the Belgian stars but it was West Ham's Francois Van der Elst who got the first goal nine minutes before the interval. In the 53rd minute East Germany could have equalised. But after a Kuhn-Richter move it was Richter who spoiled his record by shooting wide with only Munaron to beat. In the 61st minute another was wasted when Munaron, the Anderlecht goalkeeper deputising for the injured Jean-Marie Pfaff, made a good stop from Streich. This was the signal for Belgium to raise their game again and go further ahead through Vandenbergh. Streich pulled one back for East Germany in the 83rd minute.

Hampden — Euro champ gp 1
Scotland 2 (Wark 70, Nicholas 75)
Switzerland 2 (Egli 15, Heinz Hermann 58)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 36,923. **Ref:** Corver (Hol)

Scotland: Leighton — Gough, Miller, Hansen (McLeish 46), Gray — Strachan, Souness, Wark — Dalglish, Nicholas, Weir.

Switzerland: Burgener — Wehrli, Geiger, Luedi, Egli — Decastel, Favre, Heinz Hermann (Zwicker 69) — Sulser (In-Albon 84), Ponte, Elsener.

Scotland came battling back in the last 20 minutes to force a draw out of a game which appeared to be beyond them as they stood 2-0 down after an hour. Despite their comeback, their chances of reaching the finals in France remained remote. Scotland started strongly, with the crowd eager to roar on newcomers Gough at right back and the prolific 21-year-old Celtic striker, Charlie Nicholas, in attack. Yet in virtually their first raid — a direct repeat of their goal in the Berne fixture — the Swiss scored with the tall Egli trotting forward from defence to head in Ponte's corner. Worse was to come in the second half when the Scots fell victim to another set piece. Gray's foul on Ponte produced a free kick taken by Wehrli and headed home past Leighton by Heinz Hermann. For a quarter of an hour the Scots appeared finished. Then, remarkably, they hit back, inspired by the creative passing of Kenny Dalglish. First his long ball into the box was brilliantly swept home by the skidding right foot of John Wark, then the Liverpool man delivered the pass which Nicholas turned into one of the goals of the season — taking it with his right foot as he turned the defender and volleying home with his left. In the 81st minute Dalglish himself might have won the game, but instead his header was touched against the bar by Burgener. Afterwards Scotland manager Jock Stein was scathing about Dutch referee Charles Corver. He claimed that Leighton had been held when Egli headed Switzerland ahead, and that Scotland should have had a penalty when Decastel appeared to handle a cross from Strachan.

Wembley — Euro champ gp 3
England 0
Greece 0
Att: 48,500. **Ref:** Krchnak (Cz)

England: Shilton — Neal, Martin, Butcher, Sansom — Lee, Coppell, Mabbutt — Francis, Woodcock (Bissett 73), Devonshire (Rix 73).

Greece: Sarganis — Gounaris, Xanthopulos, Mitropoulos (Dontas 75), Kousoulakis, Kouis, Anastopoulos, Kampulias, Michos, Galitsios, Kostikos.

Every England manager, it seems, has to endure the purgatory of an appalling goalless draw at Wembley as part of the apprenticeship. Bobby Robson proved no exception as the Greeks who had collapsed against England at home in Salonika, produced a resolute defensive display which provoked the crowd into jeering "what a load of rubbish" at Robson's men. Trevor Francis and Tony Woodcock failed to make their experience of tight marking abroad pay off — though Francis took some brutal treatment from the Greek defenders early on. England created few openings. Early in the second half Sarganis could only parry an effort from Francis but the ball was cleared and then Francis again shot wide after being given time and space by a Sansom free kick. Steve Coppell, in this flurry of attacking, also worked an opening, but fired wide. Robson said afterwards: "The Greeks were like a concrete block and we couldn't shift them. The crowd have a right to react as they did, but no one was more frustrated than myself and the players."

Belfast — Euro champ gp 6
Northern Ireland 2 (M. O'Neill 6, McClelland 17)
Turkey 1 (Hassan 55)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Delmer (F)

N. Ireland: Platt — J. Nicholl, McClelland, J. O'Neill, Donaghy — M. O'Neill, McIlroy, Stewart — Brotherston, Armstrong, Whiteside.

Turkey: Eser — Erdogan, Fatih, Yusuf, Hakan — Eren (Arif 83), Metin, Rasit, Huseyin — Hassan, Selcuk.

A predictable outcome, even if the scoreline was surprisingly close considering the Turks' usual away form. Goals from Martin O'Neill and John McClelland in the first 17 minutes virtually decided the match — O'Neill scoring after goalkeeper Eser only half-cleared a McIlroy corner under pressure from Armstrong. O'Neill's shot was deflected into the net by Yusuf. It was another McIlroy corner which led to the second goal — Donaghy crossing the ball for Brotherston to head against the bar and McClelland to prod home the rebound. In the second half Selcuk set off on an unchecked 40-yard dash which ended with Hassan shooting home his short cross, but the Turks then appeared satisfied with their one moment of glory.

Tirana — Euro champ gp 6
Albania 1 (Targaj 81 pen)
West Germany 2 (Voeller 54, Rummenigge 67 pen)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Menegali (It)

Albania: Musta — Targaj, Ruci, Ahmetaj, Bimo, Ragami, Vukatana, Beligoni, Bajanti (Lame 30), Mingha, Kola.

W. Germany: Schumacher — Strack, B. Förster, K. Förster, Otten — Engels, H. Müller, Briegel — Voeller (Meier 86), Rummenigge, Littbarski.

The European champions didn't provide Jupp Derwall with the clear-cut win needed to guarantee his future in the manager's job, but at least they did win — a welcome change after away defeats by Northern Ireland in the championship and by Portugal in a friendly. The Germans spent most of the first half on the attack but didn't go ahead until the 54th minute when Pierre Littbarski played Voeller clear to shoot past Musta. It could have been so different, however, if Harald Schumacher hadn't saved well from Lame in the 51st minute when under pressure. In the 67th minute German skipper Karl-Heinz Rummenigge scored a second goal for his country from a penalty after a foul on Engels. The Germans then relaxed and Albania grabbed a consolation when the ball struck Engels's arm, referee Menegali waved aside German protests, and Albanian skipper and sweeper Targaj converted the kick.

Valletta — Euro champ gp 7
Malta 0
Rep. Ireland 1 (Stapleton 89)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Mathias (Eng)

Malta: Bonello — Emmanuel Farrugia, Edwin Farrugia, Holland, Schembri, Fabri, Mario Farrugia, Degiorgio, G. Xuereb, R. Xuereb, Demanuele.

Rep. Ireland: McDonagh — Devine, Hughton, Lawrenson, Martin, Brady, Whelan, Stapleton, Galvin (O'Callaghan 63), Waddock, Robinson.

The Irish Republic made history as the first senior opponents to play Malta on the controversial new Ta Qali pitch. But while its turf lacked the stones and grit of the old stadium it was littered with building debris which had much the same intimidating effect. Malta started well, with Ray Xuereb a shade away from touching in a cross and then Silvio Demanuele bringing a fine save from McDonagh. But the decisive moment came right at the end. Stapleton backheeling an O'Callaghan cross inside the post for the only goal.

Timisoara — friendly (March 30)
Romania 0
Yugoslavia 2 (Deki 14, Trifunovic 86)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Mircician (SU)

Romania: Mocanu (Lung 46) — Rednic, Ionescu (Tickanu 75), Stefanescu, Ungureanu — Augustin (Balint 34; Andone 59), Boloni, Kiem, Balaci — Georgau, Gabor (Cretu 46).

Yugoslavia: Sutar (Vujovic 46) — Deki, Kovacevski, Hadzic, Zajec, Hadzibegic, Maric (Jesic 46; Musemic 85), Rujnic (Radovic 77), Miljanovic (Batricevic 86), Secerbegovic.

Romania were surprisingly beaten, considering that the Yugoslavs put together a largely scratch side, preferring to place greater emphasis on the Olympic qualifier between the two countries that same day. Trifunovic was the key figure — laying on Deki's opening goal with yet another of his dangerous corners, and finally wrapping up the result just before the final whistle after a misunderstanding deep in the Romanian defence.

MITROPA CUP

1983 winners: Vasas Budapest.
Results: Zilina 4, Verona 0 — Galenika 2, Vasas 1 — Vasas 2, Zilina 0 — Verona 1, Galenika 1 — Zilina 2, Galenika 0 — Vasas 1, Verona 0 — Verona 1, Zilina 1 — Vasas 3, Galenika 1 — Galenika 4, Verona 2 — Zilina 3, Vasas 1 — Verona 1, Vasas 2.

Final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Vasas	6	4	0	2	10	7	8
Zilina (Cz)	6	3	1	2	10	6	7
Galenika (Yug)	6	3	1	2	10	9	7
Verona (It)	6	0	2	4	5	13	2

Previous winners: 1927 Sparta Prague. 1928 Ferencvaros. 1929 Ujpest Dozsa. 1930 Rapid Vienna. 1931 1st Vienna. 1932 Bologna. 1933 FK Austria. 1934 Bologna. 1935 Sparta. 1936 FK Austria. 1937 Ferencvaros. 1938 Slavia Prague. 1939 Ujpest. 1955 MTK Budapest. 1956 Vasas Budapest. 1957 Vasas. 1958 Honved. 1961 Bologna. 1962 Vasas. 1963 MTK Budapest. 1964 Sparta. 1965 Vasas. 1966 Fiorentina. 1967 Spartak Trnava. 1968 Red Star Belgrade. 1969 Inter Bratislava. 1970 Vasas. 1971 Celik Zenica (Yug). 1972 Celik Zenica. 1973 Talabanya. 1974 Talabanya. 1975 SSW Innsbruck. 1976 SSW Innsbruck. 1977 Vojvodina Novisad. 1978 Partizan Belgrade. 1980 Udinese. 1981 Tatran Presov.

No competition in 1958, 1960 and 1979.

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP

Group 1. — Mar 29 (Weisswiirfeln): East Germany 2, Belgium 1. — (Dundee): Scotland 2 (Black 2, 1 pen), Switzerland 1 (Koller pen).

Group 3. — Mar 29 (Portsmouth): England 2 (Wallace 32; Moonboss own goal 89), Greece 1 (Voutirissis 85).

Group 5. — Mar 26 (Novy Bydzov): Czechoslovakia 2, Cyprus 0.

Group 6. — Mar 29 (Shkoder): Albania 1 (Demollari 20), West Germany 1 (Matthy 34).

Group 8. — Mar 23 (Differdange): Luxembourg 0, France 5 (Vercruysse 32, Philippe 41, Bravo 57, 66, Anziani 84).

OLYMPIC (European) QUALIFIERS

MARCH 3

Balzers — Olympic qual Gp C preliminary, 1st leg
Liechtenstein 0
Holland 3 (Houtman 3, 8, Van der Hoft 72)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 650. **Ref:** Losert (A)

MARCH 9

Lierse — Olympic qual Gp D, sub-gp B
Belgium 0
Spain 0
Att: 1,500. **Ref:** Ashkenazi (Israel)

Belgium: De Cominck — Boeckstaens, Theunis, Somers, Wintacq — Thairet (Gorez 73), Clijsters, Guertler — P. Sanders, Cordiez, Hoste.

Spain: Buyo — Juan Jose, Alvarez, Serna, Julio Alberto — Francisco, Victor, Senor — Marcos (Rincon 67), Saralbia (De Andres 46), Carrasco.

MARCH 15

Deventer — Olympic qual Gp C prelim, 2nd leg
Holland 3
Liechtenstein 1
Ref: Hoster (Lux)
Holland, 6-1 on agg, enter Gp C proper.

MARCH 23

Timovo — Olympic qual Gp A
Bulgaria 1 (Gospodinov 62)
Hungary 1 (Sandor Kiss 47)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Scheurell (EG)

Bulgaria: Pechev — Bazinsky, Bohomilov, Lachiev, P. Petrov — Velkov, Gospodinov, I. Petrov — Ganev (Evanossian 70), Rafev (Sadakov 25), Chingov.

Hungary: A. Kovacs — Pancsics, Kohalmi, Kardos, Gallusz — Kelemen (Kiszmyer 66), Kurucz, A. Nagy, Borsi — S. Kiss, Szokolai.

Murcia — Olympic qual Gp D, sub-gp B
Spain 0
France 1 (Xuereb 87)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Mulder (Hol)

Spain: Buyo — Juan Jose, Serna, Alvarez, Julio Alberto (Nino 68) — Victor, Francisco (Guerri 62), Roberto — Marcos, Rincon, Carrasco.

France: Rust — Thouvenel, Jeannol, Fleurget, Ayache — Lemoult, Toure, Rubio, Zanon (Bijotat 76) — Xuereb, Bureau.

The match began an hour later because of crowd problems. The stadium has a 24,000 capacity, but because of ticket and attendance control blunders, some 35,000 were estimated to be in the ground, spilling into the gangways and staircases and on to the pitch. At first referee Mulder declared the match abandoned, then when he changed his mind it took lengthy negotiations before the French agreed to play.

MARCH 30

Belgrade — Olympic qual Gp C
Yugoslavia 4 (Halilovic 23, 78, Janjanin 39, Zivkovic 74)
Rumania 1 (Irimescu 61)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 3,000. **Ref:** Augusto Marques Pires (Port)

Yugoslavia: Vlak — B. Durovski, Z. Cvetkovic, Bajdarevic, Elsner, Radanovic, B. Cvetkovic, Janjanin (Milosevic 73), Halilovic, Milinaric (Zivkovic 61).

Rumania: Speriatu — M. Mihai, Cazan, C. Solomon, Stredie — Barbulescu, Panu, Donose (Majaru 79), Irimescu — Solman, Iordache (Radu II 56).

OTHER MATCHES

Mar 2. — (Budapest): Hungary 4 (Nyilasi 23, 37, 44, Hannich 86), Hungary Under-21 2 (Bognar 27 pen, Kurucz 50) — (Schwedt): E. Germany Olympic 1 (Trautmann 84), Hungary Olympic 0 — (Marrakesh): Morocco 2 (Aziz 24, Fathi 81), Nantes 0.

Mar 9. — (Roussse): Bulgaria Olympic 3 (Rafev 18, 54, 60), Rumania Olympic 2 (Barbulescu 46, 66). — (Mlada Boleslav): Czechoslovakia 6 (Jarmuskewicz og 14, Cermak 20, Chaloupka 27, 36, Jakubec 28, Vizek 83 pen), Vorwaerts Frankfurt Oder 2 (Schulz 6, Lehmann 35). — (Bielsko): Poland 2 (Buncol 55, 58), Czechoslovakia Olympic 0. — (Florence): Fiorentina 1 (A. Bertoni 60), Italy Under-21 2 (Dossena 20, Incocciati 86).

Mar 19. — (Algiers): Algeria 3, Nottingham Forest 1. — (E. Berlin): E. Germany U21 4 (Jancha 23, Ernst 32, 77, 79), Finland U21 1 (Puustinen 17).

Mar 16. — (Pecs): Pecs MSC 1 (Meszaros 77), Rumania Olympic 0. — (Kassa): Hungary Olympic 2 (Kardos, Borso), Lok. Kosice 1. — (Zagreb): Yugoslavia 0, Prosa Select XI 2 (Halilovic 37, 51). — (Luxembourg): Luxembourg 1, Eindorf (WG **Amateurliga team) 1.** — (**Mjallby**): Mjallby 2 (Andersson, Strikeldt), Sweden 2 (Eriksson, Holmgren).

Mar 18. — (Vaxjo): Oesters Vaxjo 0, Sweden 3.
Mar 20. — (Erfurt): Erfurt 1, Finland 0.
Mar 22. — (Ettelbrug): Luxembourg 0, Standard Liege 2.
Mar 23. — (Olomouc): Czechoslovakia Olympic 3 (Kramolis 17, Danek 47, 56), Soviet Union Olympic 1 (Zaludkov 36). — (Florence): Italy Olympic 4 (Bagni 9, 67, 87, Massaro 18), Carrarese 0.

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EUROPEAN GROUP FIXTURE DATES:

GROUP B

4.5.83	Denmark v E. Germany
4.5.83	Finland v Poland
18.5.83	Finland v E. Germany
19.5.83	Denmark v Norway
25.5.83	Poland v Finland
15.6.83	Finland v Norway
22.6.83	Denmark v Finland
29.6.83	Norway v Poland
17.8.83	Norway v Denmark
24.8.83	Finland v Denmark
7.9.83	E. Germany v Poland
5.10.83	E. Germany v Finland
5.10.83	Denmark v Poland
26.10.83	Norway v Finland
29.10.83	Norway v E. Germany
9.11.83	Poland v Norway
12.11.83	E. Germany v Norway
4.4.84	Poland v E. Germany
18.4.84	E. Germany v Denmark
22.4.84	Poland v Denmark

GROUP C

2.3.83	Liechtenstein v Holland	0-3
15.3.83	Holland v Liechtenstein	3-1
30.3.83	Yugoslavia v Rumania	
27.4.83	Rumania v Holland	
8.6.83	Yugoslavia v Italy	
5.10.83	Holland v Rumania	
26.10.83	Rumania v Italy	
9.11.83	Italy v Yugoslavia	
17.12.83	Yugoslavia v Holland	
25.1.84	Italy v Holland	
28.3.84	Italy v Rumania	
4.4.84	Holland v Yugoslavia	
18.4.84	Rumania v Yugoslavia	
18.4.84	Holland v Italy	

GROUP D

Sub-group A

24.4.83	Portugal v W. Germany
8.6.83	W. Germany v Israel
4.10.83	W. Germany v Portugal
30.10.83	Israel v Portugal
20.11.83	Israel v W. Germany
11.1.84	Portugal v Israel

Sub-group B

9.3.83	Belgium v Spain
23.3.83	Spain v France
20.4.83	France v Belgium
21.9.83	Spain v Belgium
9.11.83	Belgium v France
29.2.84	France v Spain

Group winners to play off home-away in March and April, 1984.

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GAMES OF THE CENTURY. World Cup '82. Complete guide, Pele: Life and Beautiful Game. Soccer Coaching. European Way for World Soccers/West Germany souvenirs. N. K. Chadda, 99 Drews Lane, Wardend, Birmingham, B8 2QE.

PEN PALS

22-YEAR-OLD wishes to exchange English football news for European information with pen-pals of all European countries on regular monthly basis. Please write in English, French, German to Mick Hammond, 225 Welford Road, Leicester, LE2 6BH, England.

17-YEAR-OLD male would like to correspond world-wide. Write in English, Urdu to Zulfiqar Amar, 1715/127, Dinga, Dia II, Gujrat, Pakistan.

PEN-PALS WANTED from West Germany, Sweden, Finland or Czechoslovakia, between the ages of 12 to 16, with a view to exchanging soccer statistics or programmes. Write to David Rothray (age 12), 391 Hansen Road, Brampton, Ont., Canada.

15-YEAR-OLD Ashit V. Keshani would like to correspond with pen-pals world-wide. Hobbies are reading, playing table tennis, collecting stamps and stickers and sports. Address PO Box 224, Lindi, Tanzania.

PEN-PALS WANTED world-wide by 19-year-old girl, hobbies are reading, collecting stamps, drawing, painting, handicraft. Write to Rukhsana Khan, PO Box 9, Lindi, Tanzania.

BRAZILIAN FAN CLUB approved by CBF of Brazil. Write for information regarding membership to Antonio Achilles, 35 Ridge Road, London, N8.

SOCCER FAN (15) would like pen-friend in England, Portugal, Bulgaria, Switzerland and Holland to exchange information. Write in English please to Paul Campbell, George Town, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, British West Indies.

BULGARIAN STUDENT and keen football supporter would like to correspond with British football fans. Hobbies, football, lapel badge collecting etc. Write to Krasimir Stamenov, ul. Hr. Chernigoev Bl.141-A, 1113, Sofia, Bulgaria.

16-YEAR-OLD BOY would like pen-pals world-wide. Write to Anang Rosion, Ghana Library Board, Box 284, Nkawkaw, Ghana, West Africa.

23-YEAR-OLD fanatical Chelsea fan seeks female pen-pals from all over the world. Write to Eddie Routier, 14F Peabody Estate, Herbrand Street, London, WC1.

16-YEAR-OLD STUDENT would like to correspond with pen-pals world-wide. Hobbies are exchanging gifts, postcards, soccer, table tennis, music and reading. Speaks English and French. Write to Amoabeng Tuffour Jones, c-o Mr. T. A. Tuffour, GBC, Box 74, Bunyani, Ghana, West Africa.

PEN-PALS wanted from USA, France, Canada, Britain and Finland by 22-year-old Nigerian. Supports Liverpool FC, Manchester United, Derby and Wolves. Write to Madueke N. Vincent Nicon (Marine Department), PO Box 1100 Lagos, Nigeria.

23-YEAR-OLD Manchester United fan seeks female pen-pals from all over the world. Write to Peter Iwaszyszyn, 24 Fitzbrooke Road, London, E11.

35-YEAR-OLD senior technician with the Electric Hydro Dam in Ghana, hobbies: soccer, music, reading, gardening and dancing, would like to correspond world-wide. Write to Charles Christopher Vanderpuye, Volta River Authority, PO Box 77, Akosombo, Ghana.

22-YEAR-OLD meteorologist: hobbies are playing chess, reading, music and collecting stamps. Favourite team Manchester United, would like to correspond with pen friends world-wide. Please write to Sefket Sari, Meteorolojj Bolge Mudurlugu, Antalya, Turkey.

PEN-PALS WANTED (14-17 males) in France, Italy, Eire, Holland, West Germany to exchange information and cuttings. Interests soccer, music, reading. Please write in English to John Kelly, 19 Popham Street, Islington, London, N1 8OW, England.

26-YEAR-OLD MALE from Yugoslavia wishes to correspond world-wide. Interested in sports books (Rothmans Football Yearbooks) athletics, magazines, pennants and badges. Write in English, French or Russian to Ljubise Gajic, D. Majur — Krusevacki put 17, 2500 Svetozarevo, Yugoslavia.

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LEAGUE TABLES

MEXICO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Group 1							
Atlante	26	13	8	5	51	27	35
Potosino	26	12	6	11	36	40	30
Atlas	26	8	10	11	34	40	26
Monterrey	26	6	8	12	28	38	23
Nexaca	26	3	11	12	30	53	21
Group 2							
America	26	20	7	2	54	23	47
Guadalajara	26	11	11	7	33	26	33
Necs	26	9	10	10	30	37	28
Tampico-Madero	26	9	8	12	27	45	26
Leon	26	8	10	11	35	46	26
Group 3							
Toluca	26	12	8	6	45	35	32
Universidad Aut. Guadalajara	26	11	10	5	45	36	32
Cruz Azul	26	7	13	6	29	30	27
Oaxtepec	26	9	6	14	42	47	24
Zacatepec	26	4	13	12	20	32	21
Group 4							
Puebla	26	10	12	7	38	30	32
Universidad Guadalajara	26	11	9	6	38	35	31
Universidad Nuevo Leon	26	11	8	6	41	41	31
Universidad Aut. Mexico	26	11	7	11	35	38	29
Morelia	26	7	6	13	27	47	20

(Two of each group qualify for final round after 38 matches, every other team in division twice.)

ISRAEL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Maccabi Netanya	31	15	3	3	44	23	48
Hapoel Tel Aviv	31	10	6	5	18	13	36
Shimshon Tel Aviv	31	9	8	4	27	18	35
Maccabi Tel Aviv	31	8	9	4	23	11	33
Hapoel Beier Sheva	31	7	9	5	19	18	30
Maccabi Petah Tikva	31	7	8	6	18	21	29
Bnei Yehuda Tel Aviv	31	6	9	6	16	17	27
Maccabi Haifa	31	5	10	6	18	21	25
Maccabi Yavne	31	4	12	5	18	22	24
Hapoel Ramat Gan	31	4	11	6	10	14	23
Hapoel Lod	31	4	10	7	23	32	22
Beitar Jerusalem	31	4	10	7	24	27	22
Hapoel Yehud	31	4	9	8	10	21	21
Maccabi Jaffa	31	3	11	7	15	19	20
Hapoel Kfar Saba	31	4	8	9	22	27	20
Hapoel Jerusalem	31	5	5	11	30	34	20

MALTA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hamrun Spartans	11	8	3	0	21	4	19
Hibernians Paola	12	3	7	2	14	13	13
Zurrieq	12	4	5	3	7	7	13
Floriana	12	3	6	3	8	5	12
Valletta City	11	5	2	4	13	13	12
Rabat Ajax	12	4	4	4	14	18	12
Sliema Wanderers	11	3	3	5	9	9	9
Zejtiuna Rangers	11	0	2	9	4	23	2

ALGERIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Jet	19	13	4	2	26	13	48
Setif	22	10	7	5	25	13	48
Cotio	22	7	10	5	17	18	48
Belcourt	21	8	8	5	20	18	45
MP Alger	22	8	7	7	27	22	45
USMH	22	7	8	7	21	17	44
ASC Oran	21	6	10	5	15	14	43
Kouba	22	8	5	9	23	27	43
Bel Abbes	22	6	8	7	16	20	43
Boufarik	22	7	8	6	19	20	42
MAHO	21	8	6	7	26	20	41
MP Oran	22	6	8	8	23	24	41
Guelma	22	7	4	11	21	34	40
Israib	21	6	8	9	16	25	39
Mascara	21	6	7	12	20	27	38
USK Alger	22	6	7	11	14	28	37

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rapid	18	13	5	0	47	9	33
Austria	18	12	4	3	42	17	28
Sturm Graz	18	11	2	4	33	18	24
Innsbruck	18	8	8	3	38	25	24
Eisenstadt	18	7	9	3	31	27	23
Klagenfurt	18	8	4	6	37	29	22
Salzburg	18	8	5	5	26	15	21
Voest Linz	18	7	5	7	25	30	19
Graz AK	18	8	3	8	20	25	19
Admira	18	6	7	6	28	26	19
Sportklub	18	6	4	8	27	42	16
Lask	18	5	4	10	25	31	14
Wels	18	3	6	10	14	29	12
FC Vienna	18	4	3	12	16	37	11
Neusiedl	18	2	6	11	12	33	10
Simmering	18	2	6	11	13	36	10

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Anderlecht	26	17	7	4	64	26	41
Standard	26	17	6	5	63	31	40
Antwerp	26	17	5	6	44	26	39
FC Bruges	26	14	8	4	47	25	36
Beveren	26	13	5	8	50	30	35
Waterschei	26	14	6	6	42	26	34
La Louviere	26	13	5	7	43	33	34
Lokeren	26	12	7	8	37	27	31
RWDM	26	9	11	6	29	26	29
Kortrijk	26	8	9	11	33	39	25
FC Liege	26	7	10	11	36	44	24
Beerschot	26	8	7	13	37	48	23
Lierse	26	8	6	14	27	43	22
Cercle Bruges	26	6	10	12	33	46	22
Waregem	26	6	7	15	30	44	19
Beveren	26	4	11	13	30	56	19
Winterslag	26	4	9	13	29	49	17
Tongeren	26	4	6	16	27	58	14

BULGARIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
CSKA	31	11	9	1	32	14	31
Levski	31	13	5	3	34	13	31
Trakia	31	11	4	6	37	22	26
Botev	31	10	2	9	20	28	22
Sliven	31	9	4	8	32	32	22
Tilt Varna	31	7	8	8	13	16	22
Lok. Sofia	31	8	5	8	27	30	21
Belasitsa	31	8	4	9	28	30	20
Slavia	31	8	4	9	26	27	20
Sp. Varna	31	8	3	10	25	32	20
Etar	31	5	1	11	28	30	16
Bourgas	31	6	3	10	27	34	15
Pleven	31	7	4	10	25	30	18
Pirine	31	6	4	11	18	33	16
Haskovo	31	6	3	12	20	29	15
Kazanlak	31	6	2	13	22	33	14

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bohemians	30	12	5	3	44	22	29
Slavia	30	9	8	3	38	25	26
Banik Ostrava	30	10	5	5	33	22	25
Vitkovice	30	9	5	6	27	22	23
Dukla	30	7	8	5	28	20	22
Sparta	30	8	6	6	26	20	22
Inter Bratislava	30	8	5	5	17	14	21
RH Cheb	30	6	8	6	27	20	20
Sp. Trnava	30	6	3	9	16	27	15
ZVL Zilina	30	7	4	9	24	26	18
Lok. Kosice	30	7	4	9	25	31	18
Slovan Bratislava	30	6	5	9	22	31	17
Plast. Nitra	30	7	3	10	26	38	17
Tatran Presov	30	5	5	9	25	41	15
Zbrojovka Brno	30	5	4	11	25	34	14
Sigma Olomouc	30	4	5	11	18	31	13

E. GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dynamo Berlin	30	15	5	0	47	18	35
CZ Jena	30	12	3	5	35	23	27
Frankfurt Oder	30	10	4	4	36	20	24
Leipzig Lok	30	10	4	4	33	17	24
Erfurt Rot	30	8	9	3	32	24	25
Dynamo Dresden	30	9	5	6	40	28	23
Magdeburg	30	8	4	6	41	27	22
Karl-Marx Stadt	30	7	5	8	33	30	19
Rostock	30	8	3	9	30	28	19
Wismut Aue	30	5	5	10	24	38	15
Union Berlin	30	4	5	11	22	30	13
Sachsen	30	4	5	11	24	43	13
Halle	30	3	5	12	32	46	11
Zwickau	30	1	4	15	11	47	6

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Nantes	31	20	8	3	48
Bordeaux	31	18	5	8	41
Paris SG	31	16	7	8	39
Monaco	31	12	13	6	37
Lens	31	13	5	11	35
Laval	31	11	12	8	34
Brest	31	12	11	8	33
Nancy	31	12	7	12	31
Auxerre	31	10	10	11	30
Sochaux	31	7	15	9	29
Toulouse	31	12	5	14	29
Metz	31	9	10	12	28
Lille	31	11	6	14	28
St-Etienne	31	8	10	13	26
Tours	31	10	7	14	27
Strasbourg	31	9	9	13	27
Rouen	31	9	7	15	25
Bastia	31	7	11	13	25
Mulhouse	31	8	4	19	24
Lyon	31	8	6	17	22

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Olympiakos	35	16	7	2	45	16	39
AEK	35	15	5	5	40	26	35
Aris	35	13	7	5	27	13	33
Larissa	35	11	6	5	38	23	31
PAOK	35	11	6	6	35	22	28
Yannina	35	8	10	7	28	22	26
Panathinaikos	35	9	7	9	37	34	25
OFI Crete	35	8	8	8	34	35	25
Kyse Drama	35	10	5	10	31	37	25
Heraklis	35	8	7	10	35	31	23
Serres	35	7	9	9	23	28	23
Ethnikos	35	8	7	10	27	27	23
Panionios	35	9	5	11	34	31	23
Apollon	35	7	8	10	25	22	22
Makedonikos	35	8	5	12	21	42	21
Kastoria	35	6	5	14	27	42	17
Patras	35	7	3	15	21	34	17
Rhodos	35	4	6	15	14	43	14

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax	30	22	5	3	83	30	49
Feyenoord	30	20	6	1	62	21	46
PSV	30	18	9	3	74	25	45
Roda JC	30	12	7	10	47	42	31
Haarlem	30	12	7	10	36	30	31
Sparta	30	9	12	9	53	47	30
Excelsior	30	13	8	11	40	36	30
Groningen	30	8	14	7	51	48	30
FC Utrecht	30	10	9	10	45	44	29
Fortuna Sittard	30	10	9	10	39	37	29
AZ'67	30	10	6	13	36	31	26
Helmond Sport	30	8	8	13	39	56	24
Willem	30	7	7	16	36	55	21
PEC	30	7	7	16	37	64	21
Go Ahead	30	6	9	14	32	56	21
NEC	30	4	12	13	36	53	20
NAC	30	5	9	16	27	63	19
Twente	30	4	10	16	37	61	18

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Raba Eto	22	14	3	5	55	26	31
Ferencvaros	22	13	3	6	55	26	29
Honved	22	13	5	5	39	25	29
Csepel	22	10	9	3	36	28	29
Ujpest	22	10	5	6	34	27	25
Vasas	22	9	5	7	40	37	24
Tatabanya	22	6	9	7	31	32	21
Zalaegerszeg	22	6	8	8	29	30	20
Diosgyoer	22	7	6	9	26	36	20
Debrecen	22	6	8	8	24	32	20
Haladas	21	7	5	9	20	35	19
Videoton	22	8	3	12	36	36	14
Nyiregyhaza	22	5	7	10	19	35	17
Pecs	21	6	4	11	29	37	16
MTK	22	6	4	12	26	44	16
Bekescsaba	22	4	7	11	30	53	15

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Roma	26	14	5	3	41	22	37
Juventus	26	13	5	5	41	25	33
Inter	26	10	12	4	35	21	32
Verona	26	10	10	6	32	27	30
Fiorentina	26	10	9	7	32	23	29
Torino	26	9	11	6	28	20	29
Udinese	26	5	16	5	21	22	26
Sampdoria	26	7	12	6	23	24	27
Genoa	26	6	12	8	21	25	24
Cagliari	26	6	12	8	21	28	24
Pisa	26	7	9	10	25	28	23
Avellino	26	6	11	9	23	31	23
Ascoli	26	7	8	11	27	35	22
Napoli	26	5	12	9	20	29	22
Cesena	26	4	12	10	20	31	22
Catanzaro	26	2	9	15	18	46	13

POLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ruch	26	9	7	4	25	13	35
Lech	26	11	2	7	29	21	34
Pogon	26	8	7	5	29	19	33
Widzew	18	6	10	2	27	22	22
LKS	26	7	8	5	28	27	22
Legia	26	6	5	7	30	25	21
Wisla	26	6	3	8	24	23	21
Slask	26	6	4	8	23	20	20
Szombierki	26	5	10	5	23	24	20
Zaglebie	26	6	6	7	21	24	20
Katowice	26	7	5	8	20	20	19
Baltyk	26	5	9	5	17	19	19
Gornik	26	7	4	9	21	29	18
Cracovia	26	3	10	7	12	21	16
Gwardia	26	6	4	10	21	32	16
Star	18	2	8	8	15	26	12

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World SOCCER

KLAUS FISHER Koln and West Germany